

The gentlemen composing the Committee of Arrangements appointed at the celebration of the Battle of Moore's Creek, on the 27th February, 1856, are urged to meet at the Court House in Wilmington, at 11 o'clock, A. M., on Tuesday, Jan. 6th, 1857, on business of importance.

The following gentlemen compose the above Committee:—Dr. F. J. Hill, Rev. Robert Tate, James P. Moore, James Kerr, David McIntire, Rev. Colin Shaw, Owen Alderman, Daniel Shaw, Jefferson Corbett, N. N. Nixon, P. M. Walker, Robert Bannerman, Charles Henry, James Garrison, Thomas H. Ashe, John McRae.

On the 27th of last February, we enjoyed the pleasure of being present at the first celebration of the Battle of Moore's Creek. The occasion was, on many accounts, a delightful one. The whole arrangements were excellent and the attendance large, although the time for preparation had been very short. It was, in fact, almost an impromptu affair, and owed its whole success to the warm feeling and patriotic spirit aroused among those who enjoyed the blessings which the men of the Revolution had risked their lives to secure.

At the time, subscription papers were gotten up, and one left at the Bank of Wilmington and another at Mr. Lippitt's Drug Store. What has been done we cannot say, it is probable that the public has been lost sight of, in a great measure, by the public, as it has certainly been by the press. The truth is that the excitement of the year about closing have been of such a character as to absorb public attention— we confess that they have absorbed ours, and we take pleasure in having it again drawn to this interesting subject by the call for the meeting of the committee, which we have been requested to publish.

We are indebted to the courtesy of our friend, Dr. Tate, one of the Commissioners for this county, for several important Legislative Documents, among others the "Bill to charter the People's Bank of N. Carolina."

The bill is quite lengthy, making nineteen octavo pages, in the usual type of legislative documents. We hastily glance at some of its provisions. The first section fixes the capital stock at four millions.—The 2nd contains the usual clause of incorporation. The 3rd provides that the State shall take two millions and individuals the balance. The 4th provides for the opening of books at certain points. The 5th fixes the manner in which the State subscription shall be made. The 6th enacts that each subscriber shall deposit stock in some railroad wholly within the State, to the amount of the stock for which he subscribes in the Bank. 7th—When stock to the amount of a million has been subscribed by individuals, the corporation shall be organized. 8th—The State to have four directors and individuals six.—Installments of ten per cent. each, to be called for from stockholders at such times as may be deemed expedient. Such installments to be paid in gold or silver, or the notes of specie-paying Banks out of this State. On due proof being exhibited to the Public Treasurer of the actual possession of such funds by the Bank, then said Public Treasurer shall countersign bank notes to double the amount of such capital paid. The Bank to have the power of issuing notes as low as one dollar—to establish branches at different points, but all notes under five dollars to be redeemable at the parent Bank, or any of its branches, no matter at what point they may be issued, or where, by their face, they may purport to be payable. These are a few of the leading provisions.

There are some provisions in the Bill to charter the so-called People's Bank, the full operation of which we wish more clearly to understand before discussing them, and although we feel convinced that the affair is only another name for an odious monopoly, we wish to discuss understandingly and fairly without any misconception. We therefore postpone for to-day our further remarks in that connection.

The following letter from Judge Battle, of the supreme court of North Carolina, in relation to an alleged opinion of that court in regard to the competency of the members of the Universalist Church as witnesses, will be read with interest. The letter is addressed to the editors of the National Intelligencer: CHAPEL HILL, December 23, 1856. GENTLEMEN: In your paper of the 11th instant I see it stated that "the supreme court of North Carolina has confirmed the decision of Judge Manly, that members of that Universalist Church are incompetent to testify in courts of justice according to the laws of that State." This is a mistake which I have no doubt you will cheerfully correct. In the case of Brown vs. Beaver, reported in 3 Jones's Law Rep., 516, the supreme court, in an opinion delivered by myself, do indeed affirm the judgment given in the case below by Judge Manly, but it was upon a point which rendered unnecessary a review of his opinion upon the competency of the witness. The question arose upon the probate of a script which the Judge permitted to be established as a holograph will after he had rejected one of the subscribing witnesses as incompetent on the ground of his being a Universalist. The supreme court, in the opinion to which I have referred, held this to be proper, and concluded thus: "This renders the question as to the competency of one of the subscribing witnesses unnecessary, and makes it improper for us to express an opinion upon it."

I am, very respectfully, &c. WILL H. BATTLE.

83—The last day of the year is a sufficiently solemn occasion to awaken thought in the minds of the least thoughtful, and it would no doubt do so to a much greater extent, were it not that the coming day is the important, perplexing, iritating and uncomfortable first of January, and that most people are too busy looking forward to the future to bestow much time upon the past.

We know that it is the cant of these latter times—perhaps of all times—to talk of the present hour as the most momentous in the history of the world—as being, in some measure, the crisis, the culminating point for all humanity, and we know not what else. Making all reasonable allowance for this tendency to exaggeration, we cannot but feel that this has been an important year—a year of excitements—of events in war and in politics.

With the commencement of 1856, the allies were still encamped around Sebastopol, and the Eastern war threatened to be of interminable duration;—with its close, the nations of Europe are already squabbling over the terms of the settlement which put a temporary stop to the carnage in the Crimea, but fixed nothing securely for the future. With the opening of 1856, parties were marshalling their forces for the coming contest of politics in the United States. The names of candidates were canvassed—the forces of different organizations estimated—"Sam" was still looked upon as a power in the State, and men regarded the Philadelphia assemblage, which nominated Mr. Fillmore, as possessing some hope of being able to carry through its nominee. Then came the Democratic convention. Then the Black Republican, and under the banners of the latter rallied fanaticism, sectionalism, and every species of unprincipled ambition, threatening to rend asunder all the bonds that hold the Union together. The contest was hot—the struggle terrible; but the result is known—the close of the year finds sectionalism defeated—Democracy triumphant, and Know-Nothingism in possession of the single State of Maryland.

During the year all eyes have, at intervals, been turned to Nicaragua. We fear that with its closing hours the certain fall upon Walker's Central American experience.

What may be the future of Kansas we cannot pretend to say. We know that while one year ago all was disturbance there, all is now quiet. Much of this is due to Gov. Geary, much also to the fact that since the presidential question has been decided for the present, there is no longer a motive for the "Free-Soil Strikers" to keep up the disturbance either actually in Kansas or figuratively by lying stories in their organs.

Of the various questions which one year ago threatened our relations with foreign nations, most, if not all, have been settled honorably and satisfactorily, leaving our course comparatively free from entanglement or apprehension.

The coming year has yet to do its work, and by that work its character must be judged. General Pierce will vacate the presidential chair, and Mr. Buchanan will occupy it. So far there will be little change, as in all essential matters there is an identity of principle between the present incumbent and his successor. But the nation will have reason for thankfulness in the fact that the present incumbent Congress will close up business on the fourth of March, and be succeeded by a body in which the National Democratic element will be in the ascendant.—Daily Journal, 31st ult.

THE FOREIGN NEWS.—The important fact connected with the news by the Europa, is the formal declaration of England of war with Persia. This, of itself, might not amount to much, but those who have watched the course of events, see in it one of the moves in the game for ascendancy in the East, which England and Russia have been so long playing against each other. Russia has advanced to the frontiers of Persia, and made that power her creature.—Persia almost touches upon the British possessions in India. The safety of these possessions depends, or is supposed to depend upon maintaining the ascendancy of British influence in the countries of Central Asia, which lie between the actual possessions of Russia, and those of Great Britain. Herat is a frontier town between Afghanistan and Persia; once it belonged to Persia, again to Afghanistan, again it was the centre of a sort of independent principality, though in all probability it has pretty generally been under the control of some petty chieftain, whose allegiance to Persia or Afghanistan was loosely won. Recently the Persians under the lead of Russian officers, and it is contended under Russian influences have besieged and taken Herat. This the British look upon as an advance of Russian in her march against India, and to counteract such advance, they have asserted a protectorate over Herat as a part of Afghanistan, and declared war against Persia because of it.

Diplomacy carefully veils these things under the affectionate of other causes of quarrel, but all parties understand the real motives of action just as well as though they were directly set forth, in words. How many moves may yet have to be made before the game is played out, and the tug of war comes, is difficult to say, but this one certainly indicates a considerable advance towards that point. The British Indian force, operating through the Persian Gulf, will be the first element brought to bear, and will give England a very considerable advantage. But the Russians, having seized on the mouth of the great Amour river, are fast consolidating the elements of a naval and military power on the Pacific, which may eventually prove a match for that now possessed by England in that quarter. The real antagonism of England and Russia is Asiatic, not European.

This morning a collision took place on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, about four miles from town, between the up and down mail trains. We are pleased to learn that none of the passengers in either train were injured in any way. The only person hurt was a colored brakeman, whose legs were jammed between two cars. Considerable damage was sustained by the engines and cars, but we have not heard the exact amount of loss.

We have heard different accounts, and cannot get fully at the circumstances which resulted in this accident. It would appear that there is a turn-out at the place, upon which the down train was backing, but upon which it did not succeed in getting wholly before the up-train came in contact with it. The up-train was moving very slowly.

The Weather. We notice that at the latest dates the Delaware River was closed by the ice, and persons had walked over from Philadelphia to the Jersey side. The navigation of the upper part of the Chesapeake including the harbor of Baltimore, is also suspended by the ice.

The Potomac is also full of floating ice, and passengers arrived here this week report serious detention at Washington by the Acquia Creek line. P. S.—We notice that the navigation on the Chesapeake is now open and the bay boats making their trips.

83—We publish today our yearly table of exports from this point, comparing those of the year just closed with those of the year last preceding. The table is carefully compiled from our weekly and quarterly reports, and is as nearly accurate as such things can be made, although we have little doubt that the aggregate falls below the actual amount. Of course our merchants are the best judges of their own business, and it is with them to give or withhold much of the information upon which such tables must be based, but it seems to us that the press in getting up such tables in the general interest of trade, has some claims for co-operation from those whose interests are connected with such matters. A single item in our table has been the main cause of our making these remarks. We allude to the exports of wheat, 73,332 bushels is the whole amount of exports which our reporter has been able to obtain, although we know from the business of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, that a much larger amount—more than twice as much—we think over three times as much arrived here, the greater portion of which has been shipped. Still, as we have remarked, our reporter must base his tables upon such facts as the mercantile community chose to impart, and therefore the amount stands as stated. We again call the attention of our merchants to this matter. It is their business and their interest, even more than ours, that a full exhibit of the business of the port should appear.

Upon the whole, it is a pleasure to us to say that the export business of 1856 has been better than that of 1855. The export of Spirits of Turpentine, Rice, Cotton and Timber and Lumber are somewhat in advance of the previous year and at average rates rather higher than those ruling in that year. As we have said before, things must eventually find their level. The peculiar staples of this section have been depressed for an unusual length of time, and pressure and embarrassment has been the consequence extending to all branches of business. The fact that the production of cotton has afforded and still affords a more remunerative mode of employing labor and capital, must tend to restrain the diffusion of the naval store business at the South, thus bringing the supply within the demand, and of course, restoring the equilibrium of prices, from which will result the establishment of rates equally remunerative with those generally ruling in other branches. We are therefore in hopes of a gradual improvement in business and the return of better times, which are certainly needed here as much as any where. We look hopefully to the future.

We trust that the Legislature now in session will revise some portions, at least, of the Revenue laws of the last. There is one section which we know operates detrimentally to the trade of Wilmington, in common with the other towns of the State. We allude to that imposing a tax of five per cent. upon liquors, wines, cordials, &c. The direct operation of this law is to place the North Carolina merchants at precisely that disadvantage as compared with those outside of the State, thus driving off business, not only in the articles referred to, but in others, which, with them, go to make up a stock of goods, especially groceries, and which are generally purchased together, so that the trader from the interior, who is driven to Petersburg, Norfolk or Charleston, for his liquors, is very apt to purchase there also other goods, which, under different circumstances, he would have obtained in Wilmington or some other North Carolina market.

Our readers are aware that rumors have been afloat in regard to a difficulty or misunderstanding between some gentlemen, members of the Legislature. We take pleasure in publishing the annexed card from the friends of these gentlemen, announcing an honorable and amicable adjustment of such misunderstanding. It affords us peculiar pleasure to be enabled to do so in this case, as both the parties are personal friends, and clever gentlemen.—

A CARD. The undersigned, the friends of Gen. Dargan and Mr. Barrow, take pleasure in saying that the recent misunderstanding between these gentlemen has been adjusted, without, in any respect, compromising the honor of either party. J. EBORN, THOMAS SETTLE, Jr.

R. A. Ezzell, Esq., who has been for over two years editor of the Warrenton, N. C. News, takes his farewell of the patrons of that paper in a well-written and feeling valedictory, published under the editorial head in the News of Friday last. The News, under Mr. Ezzell's management, has been an able and high toned paper, and we regret to learn that his connection with the press, necessitating the neglect of other business, has resulted in serious detriment to his pecuniary interests. We wish him success in whatever pursuit he may hereafter see fit to engage.

The Wages of Labor. The Pennsylvania, in a late issue, notices the work of a Frenchman, Le Play, on the "Workmen of Europe and America," in which we find the following: "The average wages of laborers in the whole United States and Territories in 1850, including California and Oregon, where the wages were very high, was about as follows: Monthly farm hands, with board, \$14 31 Day laborers, 8 19 Day wages to laborers, without board, 2 07 Day wages to carpenters, 2 07 These rates are infinitely higher than those received by the laborers of any other country. The opportunities of personal advancement in our land, in every department of life, have been unparalleled by any other portion of the world in any age. As in politics the sons of our poorest men may, and often do, reach the highest honors, so in the business world, in commerce, in the mechanical arts, in manufactures, and in every avenue of labor, industry, perseverance, energy, intelligence, and strict attention to the pursuits selected, are almost invariably crowned with success, and our richest, as well as our best and greatest men, have nearly all commenced life under the most discouraging and unpromising circumstances."

INTERESTING DECISION TO THE COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY.—An interesting decision was made in the Supreme Court of Louisiana, a few days ago, in which Wm. D. Miller, a tobacco manufacturer of Lynchburg, Va., was the appellee, and two New Orleans commission merchants appellants. The former, on several occasions, had shipped tobacco to the latter to sell on commission. A consignment, some time since, was destroyed by fire in the store of the appellants, and the suit arose in regard to the insurance. The New Orleans Delta says: "It was decided that the factor who charges his principal a rate of insurance different from that which he himself pays the underwriters thereby becomes the insurer of his principal. We believe the custom is almost universal among our merchants to charge their consignors one-fourth of one per cent a month for insurance. Every merchant thus becomes an underwriter, and many of them will be startled to learn their new obligations. Hereafter planers and others shipping their produce to our merchants can have no assurance that their property is protected, or that, in case of loss, responsible officers will make good. They must rely more than ever on the integrity and solvency of their merchants."

Ald for General Walker. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 29.—The steamship Texas sailed for San Juan this morning, with five hundred recruits for Walker's army.

A workman, demanding his salary from his rather unprompt employer, declared that he was in danger of dying with hunger. The master, who saw that his wages were full and ready, told him that his face contradicted his statement. "Ah, six," said he, "don't trust that; this face is not mine; it belongs to my landlord, who has given me credit for a long time past."

From Santa Fe. INDEPENDENCE, Mo., Dec. 29.—The Santa Fe mail has arrived. The party experienced heavy snows, and much trouble from the Indians. Ben's Fort had been attacked by the Kiwas, and but for the interference of the Cheyenes would have been destroyed. Capt. Dodge, the agent of Navajos, had been taken prisoner by the Apaches. Numerous other Indian depredations were reported.

From Kansas.—An Indignant Ex-Official. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Advice from Leominster have been received, which state that Clark, the Indian Agent, had received, by a special messenger, the notice of his dismissal and the appointment of Winston, of Virginia, as his successor. He became much excited and threatened vengeance on all parties.

LITTLE CLARA.—Little Clara was watching with much curiosity and interest a flock of fowls; as they were sunning themselves, when her attention was suddenly arrested by the gorgeous red crests of two roosters.

"Mamma, what are these red things on their heads? They are combs, my dear."

"Why don't they wear combs?—Mamma, are they the women?"

From our Raleigh Correspondent. NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE. RALEIGH, Dec. 29th, 1856. SENATE.—Since our last report the Senate only met to adjourn, there being but a few Senators present. It is expected a quorum will be present to-morrow for the transaction of business.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The House has met each day at eleven o'clock, but no business of the slightest public interest has been transacted. On this morning, Mr. Speaker Shepard was present and called the House to order.

Mr. Baxter presented a memorial from Henderson County relative to Magistrate's fees. Mr. Badham, a resolution in favor of Sarah Charlton. Mr. St. John introduced a bill to provide for the collection of the statistics of crime in this State. Mr. Blesoe introduced a bill to re-charter the State Bank. On motion of Mr. Humphry, the bill was ordered to be printed.

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Your late allusion to E. Cantwell, Esq., Chief Clerk of the House of Commons, has reminded your correspondent, that he also, has to express his acknowledgments to that gentleman for his uniform kindness and courtesy since the commencement of the Legislative Session. It must be gratifying to Mr. Cantwell's numerous friends to learn that the arduous duties of his office have never been more effectively discharged. The attention, energy and business tact displayed by Mr. Cantwell, must eventually place him in the front rank of his profession.

RALEIGH, Dec. 30, 1856. The Senate transacted no business this morning, merely met an adjourned. HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The following bills were introduced, read the first time and appropriately referred to: Mr. Yancy, a bill to lay off a Road in Madison County. Mr. Stiles, a bill to prevent the obstruction of Fish in Nollety River, Cherokee County. Mr. Lewis, of Wake, a bill to charter the North Carolina Bank. Mr. Dancy, a bill concerning the sale of Liqours in the town of Wilson. The rules were suspended and the bill passed its second and third readings.

The following engrossed bills from the Senate were read the first time: A bill to charter the Salem Cemetery Company.—A bill to extend the powers of Plank Road and Turnpike Companies. A bill concerning the Clerks of the Supreme Court, and a bill to secure holders of County Bonds. Mr. Yancy, a bill to lay off a Road in Madison County. Mr. Stiles, a bill to prevent the obstruction of Fish in Nollety River, Cherokee County. Mr. Lewis, of Wake, a bill to charter the North Carolina Bank. Mr. Dancy, a bill concerning the sale of Liqours in the town of Wilson. The rules were suspended and the bill passed its second and third readings.

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One Day Later from Europe.—Arrival of the Europa. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Cunard steamer Europa, from Liverpool on the 13th inst., arrived at this point this afternoon. The ship was crowded with passengers. Her arrival, though but one day later than those from Canada, are important. War had been declared at Calcutta by England against Persia. The English troops had arrived in the Persian Gulf. It was rumored that France was mediating between the two powers.

The Europa brought sixty passengers. Passed steamship Africa, from New York for Liverpool, evening of 25th, lat. 41 deg. 09, long. 56 deg. 50. Prussia has closed all communication with Switzerland, and will make no further propositions. A telegraphic despatch from London to Liverpool, announces the arrival of the overland mail from India at Trieste, on the 12th, with Bombay dates to the 17th. The steamer, which sailed from Calcutta on the 1st of November, and the last division of the fleet for the Persian Gulf left Bombay on the 13th. Five thousand British troops are to occupy Kerek, an island in the gulf, and Bushire, a seaport city of Persia, and its principal entrepot into the Gulf.

The fall of Herat is confirmed. It surrendered to the Persians on the 26th of October. Regarding hostilities between England and Persia, a despatch from Vienna makes the statement that France is mediating between the belligerents, and endeavoring to persuade Persia to yield to England. PORTSMOUTH, Dec. 12.—The Arctic exploring barque Resolute, Commander Hartstein, arrived at Spithead this afternoon. LONDON, Saturday.—The Times' city article reports steadiness in the funds on Friday, until near the close, when the report of considerable depression in the Paris Bourse caused heaviness. French three per cent closed at a decline of 1/4 per cent. The Daily News calls business at the stock exchange flat, at an eighth decline, with an active commercial demand for money.

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The Panama Star of the 19th contains an account of the war in Nicaragua, confirmatory of that received here by the Tennessee, but nothing new. A British squadron arrived at Panama, on the 8th. It is understood with a view of examining the practicability of establishing a naval depot at Tobago. A letter from Carthagena dated 23d November, states that the British difficulty is still pending, and the blockades of the New Grenadian ports will convene immediately.

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From Santa Fe. INDEPENDENCE, Mo., Dec. 29.—The Santa Fe mail has arrived. The party experienced heavy snows, and much trouble from the Indians. Ben's Fort had been attacked by the Kiwas, and but for the interference of the Cheyenes would have been destroyed. Capt. Dodge, the agent of Navajos, had been taken prisoner by the Apaches. Numerous other Indian depredations were reported.

From Kansas.—An Indignant Ex-Official. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Advice from Leominster have been received, which state that Clark, the Indian Agent, had received, by a special messenger, the notice of his dismissal and the appointment of Winston, of Virginia, as his successor. He became much excited and threatened vengeance on all parties.

FACTS FOR CONSIDERATION. In 1780, prior to the Revolution, St. Domingo exported 76,835,219 lbs. of coffee, and 140,000,000 lbs. of sugar; in 1813 the export of coffee had fallen to 26,000,000, the export of sugar had ceased entirely, and sugar is now imported into the island.

In 1834, the year of the emancipation of the slaves, Jamaica exported to England 18,268,883 lbs. coffee and 125,625,300 lbs. sugar; in 1839, five years after, those exports had decreased to 9,423,197 lbs. coffee and 70,507,800 lbs. sugar.

The whole number of slaves imported into the English West Indies was 1,700,000; in 1834 only 660,000 remained to be emancipated, being 1,040,000 less than the number imported, or a decrease of over three fifths.

The whole number of slaves imported into the United States prior to the prohibition of the slave trade, in 1808, was 375,000. By the census of 1850 the slaves in the United States amounted to 3,204,313; to add to this the free blacks, 434,405—total of 3,638,718, having increased 3,263,808, or nearly nine for every one imported.

The free black population in the New England States, in 1810, was 19,479. In 1850, a period of forty years, it had increased to 23,021, or eighteen per cent.

The slave population in the United States, in 1810, was 1,191,305. In 1850 it had increased to 3,204,313, or 2,64 per cent, nearly fifteen times the ratio of the increase of the free black population.

From the above facts the following conclusions may be drawn: 1st. That in consequence of the revolution in St. Domingo, and the emancipation of the slaves in Jamaica, those islands are fast relapsing into deserts.

2d. That slavery in the United States is a very different institution from what slavery was in the English West Indies; that in the United States, owing to their kind treatment, the slaves had increased nine fold, while, on the contrary, in the English West Indies, they had decreased three-fifths.

3d. That the negro race increases nearly five times as fast in their state of slavery in the Southern States, under the care of their masters, as in their state of freedom in New England, when dependent on their own resources and the charity of the white race.—New York Daily Book.

SERIOUS DECREASE IN THE YIELD OF SALT.—On Saturday evening Mr. Samuel Bracegirdle, salt operator and shipbuilder, of Northwich, called at Liverpool Albion office, and made the following statement: The great salt districts is composed of two divisions, the Winsford and the Northwich. I own and work a mine in the latter division. For some time past there has been a gradual decrease in the quantity of brine obtained throughout the district, but within the last few days the yield has decreased 50 per cent. The higher mines at Winsford have completely failed, and those of Anderton and Northwich have fallen off within a fortnight something like 50 per cent.—My own mine has decreased to that extent, the brine having subsided to 18 yards from its previous height of 30 yards, and it is still on the decrease.

The brine in Lord Graham Bank Road Company. A bill to amend the charter of the Western Plank Road Company. A bill to prevent the felling of timber in Granberry Creek, Ashe County, and New Hope River, Orange County.

The bill to charter the Salem Cemetery Company was taken up and read the second time. Mr. Jenkins moved to strike out the third section. Mr. Yancy moved to lay the bill on the table. Pending the discussion, an adjournment being moved and the yeas and nays demanded. The Speaker decided no quorum present and adjourned the House to tomorrow morning.

One Day Later from Europe.—Arrival of the Europa. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Cunard steamer Europa, from Liverpool on the 13th inst., arrived at this point this afternoon. The ship was crowded with passengers. Her arrival, though but one day later than those from Canada, are important. War had been declared at Calcutta by England against Persia. The English troops had arrived in the Persian Gulf. It was rumored that France was mediating between the two powers.

The Europa brought sixty passengers. Passed steamship Africa, from New York for Liverpool, evening of 25th, lat. 41 deg. 09, long. 56 deg. 50. Prussia has closed all communication with Switzerland, and will make no further propositions. A telegraphic despatch from London to Liverpool, announces the arrival of the overland mail from India at Trieste, on the 12th, with Bombay dates to the 17th. The steamer, which sailed from Calcutta on the 1st of November, and the last division of the fleet for the Persian Gulf left Bombay on the 13th. Five thousand British troops are to occupy Kerek, an island in the gulf, and Bushire, a seaport city of Persia, and its principal entrepot into the Gulf.

The fall of Herat is confirmed. It surrendered to the Persians on the 26th of October. Regarding hostilities between England and Persia, a despatch from Vienna makes the statement that France is mediating between the belligerents, and endeavoring to persuade Persia to yield to England. PORTSMOUTH, Dec. 12.—The Arctic exploring barque Resolute, Commander Hartstein, arrived at Spithead this afternoon. LONDON, Saturday.—The Times' city article reports steadiness in the funds on Friday, until near the close, when the report of considerable depression in the Paris Bourse caused heaviness. French three per cent closed at a decline of 1/4 per cent. The Daily News calls business at the stock exchange flat, at an eighth decline, with an active commercial demand for money.

Two Weeks Later From California. Arrival of the Illinois. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The steamer Illinois, with California mails to the 5th inst., and \$1,700,000 in gold, has arrived. The U. S. frigate Washah left Aspinall on the 19th ult. for New York