

LOCAL NEWS.

**MILITARY COMMISSION.**—The U. S. Military Commission, Gen. Fessenden, presiding, for the trial of the parties charged with the disturbances in this city, on Christmas day, re-assembled at the U. S. District Court Room to day at noon. Upon the opening of the Court, Gen. Wells submitted a written argument, prepared by Capt. W. H. Dulany, on behalf of himself and C. E. Stuart, asking a reconsideration of the order made yesterday, and permission to appear as counsel for the defendants, on the ground that the test oath is not applicable to attorneys, being a law of Congress applying only to officers of the U. S. government, and that even if applicable to attorneys the reason for its enforcement having ceased, therefore the law ceases, "cessante ratione cessat lex;" further that the court should be magnanimous in allowing the accused the benefit of all defence in their power, as it is not to be presumed that they are guilty until that guilt is established by the testimony.

On motion of the Judge Advocate (that part asking for a reconsideration of the order being stricken out,) the argument was made a part of yesterday's record.

Gen. Well's stated that as a question of more or less gravity in relation to the jurisdiction of the court would arise, and with a view to saving time, he desired to reserve the right to discuss that question in the final argument; this, with the consent of the Judge Advocate, was entered on the record.

The examination of witnesses was then commenced, when Geo. Dogans (negro) was called and gave testimony in reference to disturbances on King street, between Pitt and St. Asaph, and at Chapel Hall, on the corner of Washington and Duke streets.

Mr. Charles Javins, whose name appeared yesterday, as one of the parties implicated, but not under arrest, appeared this morning, and was taken before witnesses, but not being identified was at once discharged.

A bill has been reported in Congress to extend the charter of the Alexandria and Wash. R. R., in relation to the route of the road in Washington.

It is the House bill of last session as amended by the Senate Committee for the District of Columbia. It authorizes the extension of the track through Maryland avenue and 6th st. west to any suitable point for a depot near Pennsylvania avenue. The committee's amendment provides for a track along Virginia avenue, D street, crossing the canal to New Jersey avenue; thence, tunnelling Capitol Hill, to Light street east, and intersecting the Washington branch of the Baltimore and Ohio road.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says: "Although the city is at present very lively, and apparently prosperous under the stimulating influence of the presence of large numbers of strangers and sojourners, evidences are daily accumulating of a material decline in the business of the District, and in consequence the rents of business places are experiencing a very material falling off. Many who located here pending the war to prosecute trade are winding up business and returning to the North. The speedy fall of house rent is anxiously looked for as one of the results of this exodus."

The market is now very poorly supplied with country produce. Turkeys are selling at from \$3 to \$4—very few of them bought; and geese at \$2@2.25.

The house at Sunny Side, in this county, owned by Mr. Addison, within view from the Washington road, was, we learn, destroyed by fire a few days ago.

The weather continues to moderate, and a thaw has commenced. Large numbers of persons were on the ice yesterday, at Hunting Creek, and the coves of the river.

Wood, at the Government yard, north end of Patrick street, can be procured at \$6.50 per cord, which is a great accommodation to the public.

Many pavements continue to be covered with ice or slush, which ought to be removed, or covered with ashes.

There were no cases worth reporting at the Mayor's or Magistrates' office this morning.

A state convention will be held in Maryland, in relation to the Registry law in that State, a law by which "a large majority of the citizens of the State have been disfranchised."

Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, will introduce a bill in the Senate in a few days for reorganizing the regular army. It provides for sixty regiments of infantry, ten of cavalry, and seven of artillery. A proportionable amount of these new regiments are to be composed of colored troops, the officers to be taken from the present regular army, without regard to seniority of rank from veteran reserve corps and volunteer officers who have served with capacity for two years. It also provides for one Lieutenant General, five Major Generals and ten Brigadiers. See proceedings of Congress.

The Acting Secretary of State, W. Hunter, in a communication to the President, transmitted to the House in answer to the resolution inquiring concerning "the kidnapping of the child of an American lady in the city of Mexico by the usurper of the Republic, so-called Emperor," says that "no official information has been received at this department in regard to the kidnapping referred to, and no other information upon that subject which it is deemed advisable to make public at this time."

The District of Columbia will be largely represented in Baltimore on Sunday and Monday next, it being already well-known that all the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and distinguished laymen will be there convened in attendance, on the occasion of the grand Anniversary of the Parent Missionary Society of the United States. This will form quite an epoch in the history of Methodism.

The Richmond Whig says:—As the work of the farmer is not a mere job, to be finished in a day, a week, or month, but a continuous system of regular labor, not to be neglected at certain most important seasons under penalty of losing the whole year's work, short terms of contracts for labor, will not do for him, for he requires some hands for all the year around.

Frederick Douglass indignantly left a hotel in Massachusetts, the other day, because he was not allowed to take his meals with the other guests of the evening. In the course of his lecture in the evening, he said it was the only indignity he had ever received in Massachusetts, and proceeded to give the Boniface a terrible cutting up.

General Frank Blair, before leaving St. Louis for Cincinnati entered his action in the Circuit Court against Messrs. Ridgely and Thompson for \$10,000 damages. The gentlemen who are made defendants in this suit were judges of election and refused to allow Gen. Blair to vote unless he would take the oath prescribed by the constitution.

In New York a man named Mudgett, an informer in a confiscation case, has sued the United States District Attorney for \$13,262, which he claims to have been cheated out of. The property confiscated belonged to Gen. Hugh W. Mercer.

GOLD.

NEW YORK, January 11.—Gold, 138½.

H. E. Smith, mentioned in the report of the proceedings of the Military Commission, as one of the parties charged with being concerned in the Christmas disturbance, was not H. Erick Smith. Jan 11—1t

ALEXANDRIA WATER COMPANY.

An adjourned general meeting of this company will be held at the Custom House, on Thursday, the 18th inst., at 3 o'clock p. m. R. JOHNSTON, Secretary. Jan 11—dtd [Journal]

LOST, yesterday afternoon, between Prince St., and Hunting Creek, a GOLD BRACELET, for the return of which a suitable reward will be paid. Enquire at this office. Jan 11—3t

DISSOLUTION.—The partnership heretofore existing under the name of Ashby & Wood, was on the first day of May, 1862, dissolved by mutual consent. The books are for the present at the old stand, No. 170, King street. Either partner is authorized to settle the business of the firm. ROBERT S. ASHBY. ROBERT L. WOOD. de 14-1m

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the late firm of Ashby & Wood, are respectfully requested to settle their accounts without further delay. It being necessary to close up the business, the books will in a short time be placed in other hands for collection. R. S. ASHBY. R. L. WOOD. dec 14-1m

GREGORY & PAUL. WHOLESALE DEALERS IN GROCERIES, FLOUR AND BACon. Nos 27 and 29, King street. ALEXANDRIA, VA. aug 11-1f

STAGE LINE TO MIDDLEBURG. The subscriber has established a stage line between ALEXANDRIA & MIDDLEBURG, the coaches leaving Alexandria on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 4 o'clock, a. m. Leave Middleburg on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, at 8 o'clock, a. m., arriving at Alexandria at 5 o'clock, P. M. Office at the Marshal House. WM. WHALEY. aug 7-1f

T. M. GRIGSBY, No. 187, KING STREET, CORNER COLUMBUS. In addition to his fine stock of TOBACCO, is now receiving a large and well selected stock of GROCERIES, WHISKIES, TEAS,

and in fact everything usually kept in a first-class grocery store, and would be pleased to see his friends and the public generally, assuring them that he will exert himself to the utmost to give general satisfaction. de 20-1f

ATTORNEY GENERAL SPEED, in relation to the case of Jefferson Davis, writes to the President, Jan 4, a letter from which the following is an extract:

"I have thought it not proper to advise you to cause criminal proceedings to be instituted against Jefferson Davis or any other insurgent in States or districts in which they were not actually present during the prosecution of hostilities. Some prominent rebels were personally present at the invasions of Maryland and Pennsylvania; but all, or nearly all of them, received military paroles upon the surrender of the rebel armies. Whilst I think that those paroles are not ultimate protection from prosecution for high treason, I have thought it would be a violation of the powers to prosecute those persons for crimes before the political power of the Government has proclaimed that the rebellion has been suppressed. It follows from what I have said that I am of the opinion that Jefferson Davis and other of the insurgents ought to be tried in some one of the States or districts in which they in person especially controlled the crimes upon which they may be charged. Though active hostilities and flagrant war have not for some time existed between the United States and insurgents, peaceful relations between the Government and the people in the States and districts in rebellion have not yet been fully restored. None of the justices of the Supreme Court have held circuit courts in these States and districts since actual hostilities ceased.

When the courts are open and the laws can be peacefully administered and enforced in those States whose people rebelled against the Government—when this peace shall have come in fact and in law—the persons now held in military custody, as prisoners of war, and who may not have been tried and convicted for offences against the laws of war, should be transferred into the custody of the civil authorities of the proper districts to be tried for such high crimes and misdemeanors as may be alleged against them.

I think that it is the plain duty of the President to cause criminal prosecutions to be instituted before the proper tribunals, and at the proper times, against some of those who were mainly instrumental in inaugurating and most conspicuous in conducting the late hostilities, I should regard it as a direful calamity if many, whom the sword has spared, the law should spare also; but I would deem it a more direful calamity still if the Executive, in performing his constitutional duty of bringing those parties before the bar of justice to answer for their crimes, should violate the plain meaning of the Constitution, or infringe in the least particular the living spirit of that instrument. I have the honor to be, most respectfully, JAMES SPEED, Attorney General."

DEAD LETTER SALE.—The great sale of a-articles accumulated during the year at the Dead Letter Office, was commenced on Saturday by Boteler, and has been continued with the liveliest kind of bidding, ever since. Over half the immense catalogue is of articles of jewelry, largely of the "dollar" sort, but with sprinkling enough of the genuine to induce a lively competition. Upwards of three hundred articles in the collection are packages of potent medicines, in the shape of pills, powders, ointments, oils, old school and new school, allopathic, homoeopathic, Thompsonian, eclectic and all sorts, for the relief of every malady known to man or woman. There are over one hundred and fifty gold (supposed to be) watches. Also, an indescribable medley of all the varieties of wares known to civilization. Among the odd articles thus passed through Uncle Sam's mails, finding their way to the Dead Letter Office, are sets of shoemakers' tools, packages of type, ladies' wigs, bundles of clothing, duplicate parts of sewing machines, packages of felt hats, iron cog wheels (small), lots of lamp wicks, dress elevators, false bosoms (ladies'), shoulder straps, pieces of a piano, lamp burners, hundreds of military books, etc. The proceeds from the sales will be deposited, subject to the order of the owners, should any of them ever turn up.

A Haverhill correspondent of the Salem Gazette says: "The shoe business here has quite recently undergone a complete change. Once—five years ago say—the shoemakers took out their sets of shoes, made them and carried them in, this latter operation usually costing a day or half a day. But now everything is done by steam, and every part of the business is carried on independent of the rest. One shop turns out heels and stiffenings, another uppers; in another sole leather is cut, and finally the goods are made up by steam power exclusively. A number of new establishments have been lately started, worked by steam power exclusively."

A draft for the sum of five hundred and twenty-six dollars in gold has been received in Richmond from Messrs. John Dickinson & Co., of Houston, Texas, which sum is sent from the ladies of Texas to the widow of Stonewall Jackson. The principal contributors were ladies formerly of Virginia.

New York has lost one of its most widely respected philanthropists and merchants in the death of Robert B. Minturn, esq., who died of paralysis on Tuesday, at the age of 60. For many years he was a member of the well known firm of Grinnell & Minturn, shipping merchants.

The deficiency bill contains an appropriation of \$30,000 to defray Mr. Lincoln's funeral expenses.

STONEBRAKER'S NERVE, BONE & CORN LINIMENT FOR MAN OR BEAST! Warranted to cure Rheumatism, Sprains, Swelled Joints, Sore Throat, Frosted feet, Poisons, Sores and Bruises, Fresh Cuts, Corns, Mumps, Tetter, Pains in the Limbs and back, Sweeny, on man or beast, Saddle or Collar Galls, Distemper, Scratches, &c., on horses and Mules, and all diseases requiring an external Remedy. All who know Stonebraker's Liniment will testify that it is the most popular Liniment ever sold in any country, and that it has given perfect satisfaction wherever it has been introduced, taking the place of all others. This is a strong evidence of its great power in removing Pains, Swellings, &c., both on man or beast. No Liniment has yet been made to equal it. It only needs a trial to prove its good effects. H. STONEBRAKER, Funkstown, Md.

For sale by our agents, E. S. LEADBEATER & CO., oc 17-3m Alexandria.

STONEBRAKER'S HORSE AND CATTLE POWDERS! A safe and speedy cure for Coughs, Colds, Distempers, Heaves, Hide-bound, Worms, Bots, Scourvey, &c., in Horses, Loss of Cud, Black Tongue, etc., in Cattle.

READER DON'T FORGET! STONEBRAKER'S HORSE AND CATTLE POWDERS, are becoming the most popular Powders now in use. And Why? Because they are prepared of such ingredients as are precisely suited to the animals for which they are used. No powders ever sold have given such universal satisfaction and acquired so great celebrity in the meantime. As an evidence of their superiority over all others the proprietor stakes his reputation on these powders against all others now put up. Only try them and be convinced of their great qualities. H. STONEBRAKER, Funkstown, Md. For sale by our agent, E. S. LEADBEATER & CO., oc 17-3m Alexandria, Va.

RATS MADE TO COME OUT OF THEIR HOLES TO DIE! Great destruction of rats. It is a paste and used on bread. Every box warranted a dead shot; As it will destroy all your Rats, Roaches, Mice and Ants. Or you can have your money refunded. Not dangerous to the human family. Try it—and if it don't slay all your rats, &c. You can have your money refunded. Sold by druggists and country dealers generally. H. STONEBRAKER, Funkstown, Md.

For sale by our agents, E. S. LEADBEATER & CO., oc 17-3m Alexandria.

CHARLES WHITTLESEY, ATTORNEY AT LAW, AND CLAIM AGENT. Attends to law business in this and adjoining counties, and District of Columbia; also, pays particular attention to Collection of Claims of all kinds against the United States, including Pensions, Back Pay, Bounties, Prize Monies, &c.—Address by letter, (stating claim,) or call at his office, over the market, Alexandria, Va. oc 30-10m

"MARTHA WASHINGTON" HAIR RESTORER.—The best thing for the hair in the market. Two articles combined in one. A perfect Hair Restorer and Hair Dresser. Sold by all Druggists. The trade supplied by HENRY COOK, No. 39, King st., Alexandria, Va. Warranted to do all we claim—or money refunded, after using two bottles. Ladies try it, nov 6-3m

FOR RENT—WAREHOUSE NO. 35. A commodious three-story Brick Warehouse, fronting west on North Union street, and east on the Potomac River, with a wide alley on the north side, and contiguous to an extensive wharf, at which vessels of the largest class may land and receive cargo. Application to be left with KNOX & SMITH, South Union street.

The next building, of same size, will, also, be for rent, in a short time. de 1-1f

J. P. CLARK can be found at his old stand, No. 158, King street, up stairs. He is prepared to do all kinds of PAPER and CURTAIN HANGING and UPHOLSTERING, at the shortest notice. sep 15-eotf

W. S. KEMPER, W. H. KEMPER W. S. KEMPER & SON

GROCERS AND GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS, No. 69, CAMERON STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA. dec 6-1f

WANTED IMMEDIATELY—VESSELS, to load for CHARLESTON, S. C., SAVANNAH, GA., PETERSBURG, VA., APALACHICOLA, FLA., and BOSTON, MASS. Dispatch given. Apply to HOPE & WEDDERBURN, Jan 6-1w Foot of Prince street.

OMNIBUS FOR WASHINGTON.—An Omnibus for Washington city will leave the Marshall House, at 6 o'clock, a. m., every morning, and continue the trips, as passengers offer, up to 10 o'clock p. m. The Omnibus will, also, make return trips from Washington, starting from the corner of Seventh street and the Avenue. JCS. L. GHEEN, Proprietor. jan 9-1w

ARTHUR C. KELL, HOUSE AND SIGN PAINTER, No. 6, South Washington St., ALEXANDRIA, VA. Country Work solicited.

GLAZING and GRAINING promptly executed. jan 1-1f

FOR RENT.—The desirable four-story fire proof WAREHOUSE, on the corner of Prince and Union sts. Possession given immediately. For terms apply to WM. BDOCKINGHAM, No. 71, King street

NEWSPAPERS, for Wrapping Paper, for sale at this office. nov 17-2t