THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

VOL. VIII—No 150. PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1867. TRIPLE SHEET—THREE CENTS.

FIRST EDITION

FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

A Bloody Battle at Tuyuty.

The Paraguayans Capture the Allied Camp and Give Up the Fruit of Victory for the Sake of Drink.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The steamer North America, Captain Timmerman, from Rio Janeiro November 25, arrived at this port yesterday. The cholera had disappeared from among the armies, but some cases of small-pox still appeared. The fleet continued without change in its position. The enforcement of the Papal bull against Free Masonry, made by the ecclesiastics of Entre-Rios, had caused much scandal and discussion, and the provincial Minister of Justice had interfered.

The ratification of the new treaty of amity and alliance, limits, commerce, and navigation, between Brazil and Bolivar, were exchanged at La Paz upon the 22d of September last. In Para the company promoted for the steam navigation of the Purus and Madeira, two important affluents of the Upper Amazon, had been formed, and the vessels were to be ordered in England. The Peruvian exploring expedition, under Admiral Tucker, formerly of the Confederate navy, had reached the Amazon, and was expected shortly at Para on its return by the ocean to the Pacific side. The Japanese iron-clad, formerly the Confederate cruiser Stonewall, steamed from Rio upon the 12th of November for Japan.

The *Herald's* Buenos Ayres correspondence of November 13 gives the following account of a bloody encounter in the allied camp at Tuyuty:—

On November 3, a convoy was ready to start at daylight from Tuyuty, the old camp, where General Porto Alegre is with 10,000 men, to convey supplies to the front. The night before Colonel Barrios emerged from Fort Humaita with 8000 infantry, and noiselessly encamped close to the intrenchments of Tuyuty. At daylight, when no one was astir, except the convoy, and when the drivers were yoking the hundreds of oxen, the Paraguayans quietly marched in. They came whooping like men driving cattle, and the drowsy soldiers supposed it was the ox drivers gathering up the oxen.

By this means they were three hundred yards inside the intrenchments, among the tents, and cutting right and left, before the allies knew what was going on. There is among the allies a Paraguayan legion, which was next the intrenchment, and it seems that none of them gave the alarm and many of them joined their countrymen. At the front the consternation and slaughter were awful. No troops were ready for the attack but the few who were to go as the guard for the provision train just ready to start. These could not long resist such a force, and the Paraguayans revelled in slaughter and plunder. Paraguayan virtue could not fight on teetotal principles. When they came to spirituous liquors they carried them inside themselves, and in three hours a large portion of the invaders were revelling in the dissoluteness of victory, staggering under captured baggage or stolen drink. This decided the day. Baron Porto Alegre rallied his officers first, his men followed, and a horde, many of whom had thrown down the means of taking life to carry the means of sustaining it. Resolution extended to all the allied forces, and the carnage of the Paraguayans was terrible. It is impossible to learn exactly the amount of loss to either party, but it was the most costly and bloody of all the war.

The Recent Operations Around Humaita.

The South American newspapers give the following accounts of the recent operations around Humaita:—

On the 20th of October a party of fifty-four orientals set out on a successful raid beyond Guasacua, returning upon the 22d with thirty prisoners and one hundred and fifty cattle; and on the 27th a Brazilian party surprised a Paraguayan force at Hana, killing and capturing sixteen.

On the 21st of October the Marquis de Caxias had secretly posted four thousand Brazilian cavalry in such positions as would enable them to operate with advantage against the Paraguayan cavalry, which, to the number of about two thousand men, were accustomed to come out of Humaita to pasture their horses in the direction of the allied extreme right at St. Solano. About half-past 10 of the forenoon the signal was given. While an inferior force occupied the Paraguayans' attention in front, the other Brazilian troops closed in, and, although the Paraguans fought with desperation and extreme bravery, they were routed with a loss of nearly 600 dead, 150 prisoners, two standards, arms, etc., and were pursued to the entrenchments of Humaita, which opened a heavy fire of grape to protect them. The loss of the victors in the engagement, which lasted about an hour, was 125 killed and wounded. The other smaller affair occurred on the same day, opposite the lines of Tuyu-Cue, and resulted in a loss to the Paraguayans of seventy killed, while that of the Argentine cavalry was sixteen killed and wounded.

On the 28th 4500 cavalry, infantry, and artillery, with four four-pounders, set out to capture Lopez's cattle deposit at Rincon de las Ovejas and to occupy Tayi, on the banks of the Paraguay. On arriving at the former place it was found that works had been thrown up in a very strong position, consisting of three lines of intrenchment, resting in the flanks on deep ponds covered with abatis, and approachable in front by only a narrow but deep lake and then by a road cut through the impenetrable forest. Although cannon had not yet been mounted, the storming of this position cost the Brazilians 370 men, killed and wounded; that of the Paraguayans defending it some 250 men, being about 60 dead and 56 prisoners, besides 200 arms and about 1508 head of cattle and horses.

After this capture Tayi was reconnoitred, but it was not until the 1st of November that definite measures were taken to occupy it. At daybreak of that day the works that the Paraguayans had hastily thrown up were assaulted with the bayonet, and the Paraguayan garrison, consisting of 800 infantry, routed with a loss of 500 killed, besides others drowned in the Paraguay, and about sixty prisoners. In addition to this, of the three Paraguayan steamers which had brought the troops, one was sunk by shells from the Brazilian 4-pounders, one was burned, and the other escaped only in a crippled condition. The loss of the victors is stated not to have exceeded about thirty men.

On the 3d the Paraguayans took the initiative, as if to obtain reprisals for the heavy losses inflicted on them, and made a dash in force upon the allied base at Tuyuta, which on that day was weakened by the absence of two battalions of infantry sent to Tuyu-Cue, and by that of a force of cavalry engaged in the protection of a convoy. The works at Tuyuta consist of a long line of intrenchments opposed to those of the Paraguayans, and in their rear, opposite the centre, a large polygonal redoubt or fort, mounted with fourteen light cannon, in which are the depots of munitions.

At daybreak of the 3d, while a force attacked the convoy, about 6000 men, comprising fourteen battalions of Paraguayan infantry and five corps of cavalry without cannon, surprised and drove in the Paraguayan legion in the advance, and falling upon the extreme right, captured three redoubts there, with their artillerists and cannon, driving out the Argentine cavalry protecting them. On the Brazilian left and centre they were unsuccessful, but pursuing their success on the right, while part were occupied in the sack and destruction of the sutlers' camps and the maintenance of the captured redoubts, three strong columns rushed to the attack of the polygon, in which the Viscount de Porto-Alegre had gathered about 2000 men.

The assault was bravely made, some even succeeding in entering the fort, but, torn by the decimating showers of grape hurled into them, and by the fire of the defenders and that of co-operating infantry from the lines, the Paraguayans abandoned the attempt, and, attacked in turn by the Brazilians, were forced back to and out of the main lines. By this time two regiments of Argentine cavalry had arrived from Tuyu-cue, and soon after were joined by a Brazilian brigade. Charged now by the cavalry and pressed by the infantry, the Paraguayans were beaten out of the redoubts and undertook their retreat in increasing haste, which, under the furious charges of the allied cavalry, finally reached a confusion, and caused the abandonment of two of the light cannon they had captured in the redoubts. The losses on both sides were heavy. While the Allies lost six guns, 1100 men in killed, wounded, and missing, together with the destruction of their hospitals, the greater part of the sutlers' camps, and a part of the convoy, the official reports state that over 2000 Paraguayan corpses had been buried, about 300 remained still to bury, and 155 prisoners, almost all wounded, had been captured, thus raising the Paraguayan loss to at least 2400, independent of the wounded who had escaped.

THE WEST INDIES.

Defeat of Cabral's Forces in St. Domingo—The Lease of Samana—The St. Thomas Transfer.

HAVANA, Dec. 22.—The Spanish steamer Pajara del Oceano, Captain Ochoa, arrived this morning at Santiago de Cuba from St. Domingo city, December 20, with further details from that republic and Hayti. An action had taken place between the Dominicans and the Baezist revolutionists, in which General Palanco of the national army was killed. The Baezists abandoned Port Platte in consequence of this victory, and advanced their sphere of operations further into the interior.

General Palanco's remains were brought to St. Domingo city, and were interred with great pomp. Senor Pujol is still at Santiago. He was expected here yesterday—Saturday. He is to offer the lease of Samana for ninety-nine years at an annual rent of $300,000.

In the Legislative Chambers of St. Domingo the ten millions of francs loan recently negotiated in Paris was disapproved. I have it from a highly confidential source that Consul Savage has received a telegram from the American Consul at Santiago de Cuba, on the strength of which he has telegraphed to Secretary Seward, advising him to defer further proceedings in relation to the St. Thomas purchase.

A later telegram from Santiago de Cuba states that well informed persons there doubt the news of the defeat of General Cabral's forces in St. Domingo, as well as the announcement that a pronunciamento had been made in favor of ex-President Baez.

The Governor of St. Thomas on the Transfer to the United States.

From the St. Thomas Tidende, December 14.

At an extraordinary meeting held by the Colonial Council of St. Thomas and St. Johns, on Wednesday the 11th instant, for the purpose of discussing the matters entered on the order of the day fixed for the ordinary session appointed for the 19th ultimo, his Excellency, the Vice-Governor, immediately after the opening of the meeting, addressed the Council in the following manner:—

That the members of the Council had already by the Royal Proclamation of 25th of October, 1867 been made acquainted with his Majesty the King's resolution relative to the cession of these islands to the United States of America, and that the members, one and all, would doubtless join with him in the hope expressed in the proclamation, that the favorable development of the islands, in spiritual as well as in material respects, would be powerfully advanced also under the new sovereignty. He would, however, take the liberty to use this occasion in earnestly impressing on the minds of the Council, and all its members, to contribute on their side everything possible towards a happy transition from the now existing state of things to the future. The Colonial Council is at present the representative of this community, not only in municipal, but also, to a certain extent, in legislative matters; and it is to be expected and hoped that the new Government will make use of this institution in the deliberations on the changes in the legislature and the regulating of the administration, that the new relations will require. Until that time the hitherto existing rules and prescriptions must, of course, be observed; and he hoped, as long as he had the honor to fill the office of Superior Authority in this Community, and until the islands be taken over by the new Government, that the Council with the same zeal as hitherto will contribute its co-operation in all matters which, according to the Colonial law, appertain to and come under its competency. This for the present will be the correct and only manner in which the transition to the future can happily be prepared.

From the foregoing remarks, no doubt can be left on the minds of this public that henceforth and just as soon as the preparatory measures are completed these islands will pass into the hands of the United States.

RUSSIAN GOSSIP.

What an American Tourist Saw in the Land of the Czars.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Cleveland *Herald* gives the following interesting gossip:—

LANGUAGE AT THE CAPITAL.

There is very little English spoken here, not so much among the traders even, as in most cities in Europe. The Germans and their language predominate among the foreigners, as well as their beer. The Gast-Haus is a frequent institution in many parts of the city. One writer says, that almost invariably when he spoke to people here in his peculiar style of French and German, he always received unintelligible answers in Russian. When I got lost among palaces and grand military establishments, or cast my eyes up at the sign-boards, and read about grand fabrications and steam companies, and walked along the quays of the Neva, and saw wood enough piled up in big broad-bottomed boats to last myself and family ten thousand years; when I strolled into the Nevskoi, and jostled my way through crowds of nobles, officers, soldiers, dandies, and commoners, stopping, as usual, at every picture shop, gazing dreamily into the gorgeous millinery establishments, pondering thoughtfully over the glittering wares of the jewellers, snuffing reflectively the odors that came from the restaurants—when all this occurred, and I tried to make an inquiry of a worthy German who was standing at the door of his beer cellar, and who seemed to think I had meerschaums to sell, I began to think I had no particular business in this costly and luxurious city.

The French language is almost universally spoken by the nobility and the Court, and to such an extent is the Russian ignored, that it has been made the subject of much animadversion among the patriot writers of the day. The Russian language, itself, is a dialect of the Slavonian, the common source of the language of the Poles, Servians, and Bohemians, and, I suppose, other tribes.

The Pole, Russian, and Tartar can understand each other, but only to a certain extent. I notice quite a difference in their printed vernaculars, although they seem to be derived from the Greek.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

While we are so dilatory in translating the best Russian works, they have many of Shakespeare's plays, "Buckle's History of Civilization," almost every standard work in the English language, all translated into Russian. Upon the shelves of some of their numerous book stores you find many American authors. I could not help noticing, in one place, the little work on Petroleum, written by M. Bone, of the *Herald*, some time ago, which had strayed off here to aid and assist the people in their knowledge of the article, which, I judge, they seem to appreciate, not only the book, by its presence, but by the numerous casks of the "refined" itself we see carted through the streets.

ABOUT DINNERS.

The landlord of the "Novo Troitski" and the proprietor of the "Palkin Traktir" have served us dinners *a la Russe*, much more elaborately gotten up than those obtained at the hands of the two fat, fine looking Circassian dressed and ornamented girls at the Russian pavilion at the Great Exposition in Paris. The dish most affected here and throughout the north of Russia is called *Zakuska*, which word comprehends a *melange* of everything that happens to be in season, in the way of comestibles. As, for instance, fresh caviar, raw herring, raw smoked goose, salmon, radishes, with cheese and butter. For soups, we have the *Okreshka*, a cold iced soup, with a beverage in it, made of fermented rye, by way of flavor, and with herring, cucumber, and meat floating in it; also the cabbage soup, with sour cream, called *Schi*. This you find at the Exposition Restaurant in Paris. There is also a fish soup, which I did not taste, made of stone-perch; in fact, a taste or two of either soup will suffice. Then there are patties of isinglass, mixed up with the flesh of the sturgeon, very much like muffins with fish and cold boiled sucking pig, with horse-radish sauce; roast mutton stuffed with buckwheat, with salted cucumbers as salad; plenty of cayenne is used with the fish and cabbage. The dessert of sweet dishes and fruits is very good. The sherry of the Crimea, the wine of the Caucasus, the champagne of the Don, and the raspberry *kvas*, or cider, are pretty good, so is the beer made in St. Petersburg; but their native brandy, called *Vodka*, or "little water," must have a very depressing effect, as is frequently seen in the tottering *Moujik*, painfully endeavoring to steady the town by holding on to a post.

THE HERMITAGE MUSEUM.

Statues of celebrated generals, statesmen, painters, sculptors, and authors fill numerous niches in the walls. Two magnificent stands for candelabra of the most violet jasper from Siberia, stand at the doors at the church end of the galleries. There are immense tables and vases of porphyry and malachite, in all the galleries. The catalogue gives the number of pictures as 1635, all selections from the best painters, ancient and modern, that the world has produced. Of the Italian and Spanish schools there are five hundred, including Murillo, Velesquez, Claude Lorraine, and Raphael. In room No. 7, in which are many of the works of Raphael, I noticed a beautiful picture, by that great artist, of St. George and the Dragon, painted, says the record, in 1507, as a present to Henry VII, of England. It was purchased by the Russian Government, which has, it seems, been gathering up all the celebrated collections that have been offered for sale for the past century, as, for instance, the Walpole collection in 1779, for 35,000 pounds sterling, that of Hougnton Hall and the Choiseul Gallery, for over one hundred thousand dollars; the Malmaison collection, formed by the Empress Josephine, was bought in 1814 for 940,000 francs. On the death of Queen Hortense, thirty of the best pictures were bought for the sum of 180,000 francs. The catalogue mentions the transfer of many other private collections of pictures and frescoes; but I must stop. It would also be difficult to mention in a short notice so vast an assemblage of gems, engraved stones, and cameos. It is said to be the largest in existence. I never supposed there were as many diamonds in the world as I saw in room No. 26. There are three rooms—Nos. 23, 24, and 25—devoted to numismatic collections. These consist of more than 160,000 specimens of coin of the Greek, Siberian, Russian, and of distant countries and provinces now subject to Russia, and those of Western Europe. The earliest discovered inscription of the Russian is called the Stone of Tmutarakan, whose Prince caused the distance between the seat of his sovereignty and Kertch to be made over the ice in 1068, and recorded on this stone. Several thousand specimens of English coin, dating back to Canute, Ethelred, and Hardicanute, as well as the Oriental collections from the time of the Caliphs and the Khans of Bokhara, are splendid. The Russians prize the decoration worn by Schamyl, which we saw in one of the cases.

VIOLENCE AND MISHAP.

A young man named George Beebe, of West Bloomfield, New York, while examining a machine which was threshing clover in the adjoining town of Lima on Monday last, made a misstep, and, trying to save himself from falling, put his hand where it came in contact with the cylinder. Quicker than thought it was drawn in as far as the wrist, when the band flew off and the machine stopped. His hand was horribly mangled, which made amputation necessary. The arm was taken off just below the elbow, and the patient is doing well.

A terrible affray occurred in Elmira, a few days ago, between two men, named Daily and Baily, in the course of which an outsider was shot in the knee.

George R. Bancroft, of Burlington, a young man of fine character, was crushed under the tender at the Northfield, Vt., accident, and refused help, heroically saying, "Help the other boys; there is no hope for me," and died in ten minutes.

The Charleston *Courier* of the 18th says:—Yesterday afternoon, as a colored man named William Mitchell was attempting to break with an axe, for old iron, a loaded fifty-pound conical shell, on the premises of Mr. Powell, in Market street, south side, between King and Archdale streets, it suddenly exploded. The negro (Mitchell) was thrown from where he was standing in the yard, opposite the kitchen door, back into the kitchen, but escaped with a few bruises, his hands and face being slightly burned with powder.

The concussion in the neighborhood, however, was tremendous. The windows and ceiling of the adjoining building, on the East, kept as a restaurant by Mr. Paul Dobzspu, were very badly shattered, and a number of the sashes blown completely out. Several of the windows in the Auger building opposite were also broken. Two sons of Mr. Mackey, of the firm of Mackey & Baker, furniture dealers, had a narrow escape from the flying pieces which struck close by the door where they were standing. Their escape was almost miraculous.

A man named Edgar Smith was found dead on board the schooner Nelly Potter, at Jersey City, on Saturday morning. He was suffocated in the galley by the gas from a coal stove. A companion was nearly killed in the same way.

A suicide, near Dividing creek, is reported in the Bridgeton (N. J.) *Chronicle*. A young man named Clemence Moore, aged about twenty-two years, a son of Hamilton Moore, deliberately shot himself through the left breast with a pistol, causing his death in about three minutes. He had been at Dividing creek during the day, and it is supposed was partially intoxicated, when he went to the house of his brother-in-law, John Hickman, and requested a place to lie down. The report of a pistol was soon after heard by his sister, Mrs. Hickman, who proceeded immediately to his bedside, when he handed her the weapon, saying:—"I have shot myself—I did it on purpose—good-bye"—and expired.

The St. Louis *Republican*, Dec. 21, has the following:—

"The Coroner held an inquest yesterday afternoon, at the City Hospital, on the body of Dennis Lacy, whose death was caused by a blow on the head, under the following circumstances:—Deceased and a St. Charles merchant were going up together on the train from this city to St. Charles, when a difficulty arose between the parties. Lacy struck the merchant with his fist and pushed him over and choked him. The latter then picked up a stick of wood and hit deceased a blow over the head, from the effects of which he lingered at the Hospital until Thursday night, when he expired. The merchant was arrested and brought down to this city, but the jury rendered a verdict that the act was in self-defence; he was released from custody, having been fully exonerated from blame."

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS—Judge Brewster. Wm. B. Mann, District Attorney.

Henry Atkinson was charged with taking improper liberties with a little girl named Maggie Mulheron, aged twelve years. He was convicted on two counts of the bill of indictment—assault and battery, and assault and battery with intent to commit an outrage.

Henry Meyers was charged with the larceny of a bundle of cloth. On trial.

SUPREME COURT AT NISI PRIUS—Judge Sharswood.—Angeline Palethorp, Trustee, etc., vs. Robert Shoemaker et al. Before reported. On trial.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.—Judge Cadwalader.—James Fletcher, convicted a short time ago for extorting money by virtue of his position as a United States revenue officer, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the Eastern Penetentiary.

Daniel Carr, convicted last week of rescuing property from United States officers, was sentenced to six months in the same institution.

In the case of Edward Brock, convicted during the present term of conniving at and procuring the execution of a fraudulent bond, the motion for a new trial was argued to-day. The following are the grounds upon which the motion is made:—

1. Because the Judge erred in taking away from the jury the fact of the innocence or guilt of the defendant.

2. Because the Judge erred in taking from the jury the doubt as to the innocence or guilt of the accused.

3. Because the verdict was rendered in the absence of the defendant.

4. Because the verdict was rendered on Sunday.

—A bear made his appearance in a girl's school at Richmond, Louisiana, the other day. the female mind being at enmity against hugging (in public), there was a scattering.

SECOND EDITION

FROM EUROPE BY CABLE.

The Latest Commercial News.

Fire in Jeff Davis' Old Quarters at Fortress Monroe.

News from Baltimore and Cleveland.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

FROM EUROPE BY CABLE.

Morning Commercial and Marine Reports

BREST, Dec. 24.—The steamship Pereire, from New York Dec. 14, has arrived.

SOUTHAMPTON, Dec. 24.—The steamship Weser, from New York Dec. 13, arrived at 9 A. M.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—Rentes flat.

LONDON, Dec. 24—11·15 A. M.—American securities flat. Illinois Central, 87½. Others unchanged.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 24—11·15 A. M.—Cotton dull and unchanged. Sales to-day will probably reach 10,000 bales. Breadstuffs dull.

Afternoon Market Reports.

LONDON, Dec 24—1·20 P. M.—Consols for money, 92¼; United States Five-twenties, 72 15-16; Illinois Central, 87¾; Erie Railroad, 48¼.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 24—1·20 P. M.—The Cotton market is heavy, and the sales to-day will not exceed 8000 bales.

Breadstuffs—Corn is quiet at 45s. 9d. Wheat firm at 15s. 2d. for California white, and 13s. 7d. for No. 2 red Western. Peas had declined to 46s. Barley and Oats unchanged.

Provisions—Bacon, 41s. Tallow, 44s. Beef, 112s. for winter cured. Pork, 47s. 6d. Cheese, 52s.

The Produce Market is unchanged.

FROM BALTIMORE TO-DAY.

Preparing for Christmas—Attempt at Jail-breaking.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.]

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—The city is all alive, and the streets crowded in preparation for Christmas. Shopkeepers overwhelmed with business, gobblers, and poultry, all kinds of which are abundant.

A number of prisoners attempted to break jail yesterday, but were frustrated. Thieving and pocket-picking are fearfully on the increase.

The weather is colder, and snow indicated. Happy Christmas to the whole world—peace on earth and good will towards men. Amen!

FROM OHIO.

Meeting in Behalf of Protection to our Naturalized Citizens Abroad.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 24.—A meeting to consider the rights of naturalized citizens was held here last night. The principal feature was a speech by A. G. Thurman, late Democratic candidate for Governor. He spoke at considerable length, urging protection to naturalized citizens wherever placed, and denouncing the idea that allegiance to any government survives naturalization under another.

A preamble and resolutions were adopted looking towards the protection of foreign-born citizens in the United States everywhere, and recommending the subject to the early attention of Congress.

Fire at Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec 24.—At about 4 o'clock this morning the alarm of fire was heard inside the Fort, and upon rushing to the spot we found it to be Carroll Hall, in the room formerly occupied by Jeff. Davis, but now occupied by Colonel Henry, of the 1st Artillery. Chief Engineer John Bauich was promptly on the spot with his steamer No. 31, and soon succeeded in checking the flames, which were rapidly spreading. The fire originated by some coal dropping out of the grate on the floor, setting the carpet on fire. The damage done to the building was slight.

Markets by Telegraph.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Stocks quiet. Chicago and Rock Island, 99⅛; Reading, 96⅝; Canton Company, 55; Erie, 72¾; Cleveland and Toledo, 99; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 87⅝; Pittsburg and Fort Wayne, 99⅝; Michigan Central, 110; Michigan Southern, 85; New York Central, 117⅝; Illinois Central, 136; Cumberland preferred, 127½; Missouri 6s, 97⅝; Hudson River, 132¾; U. S. Five-twenties, 1862, 108⅝; do. 1864, 105¼; do. 1865, 105⅝; Ten-forties, 101⅝; Seven-thirties, 104¾. Gold, 133⅝. Money, 6 per cent. Exchange, 110⅛.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Cotton dull at 15¼@15½c. Flour dull; 8000 bbls. sold; State, $8·90@9·25; Ohio, $9·50@10·70; California, $12·50@13·5⅝; Southern, $9·70@14·80; Wheat dull. Corn dull. Oats dull; 12,000 bushels sold; Western, 84 cents. Barley firm; 7000 bushels sold; Western, 1·85. Beef dull. Pork dull; new mess, $20·95. Lard dull. Whisky quiet.

Shipping Intelligence.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec 24.—Arrived, bound for Baltimore, the brig Blue Wave, from Demarara; Whycah, from Turk's Island; Wisdall, do.

Passed up, brigs Frances Jane, from Rio; Mississippi, from Demarara; schr Wenonah, do; ship Hunn, from Londonderry.

Passed out, ship Louisa, for Liverpool; brigs Cyclone, for Boston; Victoria, for Antwerp; and Herald, for Liverpool.

FROM LOUISIANA.

The Checkered Convention—The Bond Ordinance—Louisiana Defrauded of $250,000—Who Voted For It, and Who Did Not.

New Orleans Cor. (Dec. 22) Cincinnati Gazette.

I would that with me you could to-day, after picking your way though lime, mortar and rubbish upon the adjacent sidewalk, enter the doorway at Mechanics' Institute, and ascending the winding stairs, find yourself in the presence of the so-called Reconstruction Convention of 1867. You have doubtless seen that familiar engraving entitled "The United States Senate of 1850," in which Henry Clay, surrounded by his compeers, is represented discussing the great political issue of that time. Now, if in this picture you will substitute for the great orator a burly black, and for the intellectual countenances and thoughtful, earnest eyes of the listening Senators, bright rows of ivories, sandwiched here and there between rowdyish looking whites, it may give you some faint conception of the honorable body which yesterday, by a vote of fifty-eight to thirty-two, concluded to put a debt of half a million dollars on Louisiana's back, in order that they, the so-called representatives of "the loyal people of the State," might be assured of their ten dollars a day and mileage.

A more stupendous fraud was never perpetrated. The speculators who thus magnanimously offer to advance sixty-five cents on the dollar and pocket the bonds, interest, discount, and all, are well known.

A casual glance over the assemblage would almost enable you to designate who voted for the ordinance, and who did not. Yonder, to the right of the central aisle, sits John Gair, a young mulatto, who, on one of the earlier days of the session, got up and denounced as "traitors" any who voted on the opposite side of a certain question then before the House. He grins every time his name is called, as broadly as any school boy, who, having thrown a spit-ball at the teacher's head, escapes detection. He voted for the Bond bill.

He is a large, stoutly-built man, with a heavy black mustache and cleanly-shaven face. His eyes and hair are very dark, and I almost fear from the course he pursued that his intentions are very nearly of the same hue. He is the violent man of the Convention—the Boanerges, as he has been well termed—who is always threatening this, denouncing that, constituting himself a permanent committee of one, as a sentinel upon the watch-tower of colored liberty.

And yet it is hard to believe that he is the same man who, five years ago, in a paper published at Clinton, La., *The Spirit of the South*, advocated the immediate hanging and annihilation of every one favoring the abolition of these men whom he now alludes to as "my colored friends," my "constituents," or "the honorable gentleman" from so and so. I leave in your hands the verdict concerning this person. It is simply a misfortune that he controls so many ignorant votes in the Convention. He voted for the bonds; who didn't?

Then there is a Simon Jones, a white delegate from New Orleans, formerly Colonel of a Corps d'Afrique regiment, and latterly very unpleasantly mixed up in long newspaper reports of some stolen State bonds, which have never been recovered. But such unpleasant little associations as these don't appear to have injured Simon at all in the eyes of his friends, and he has been distinguishing himself greatly in this finance question before the Convention by playing negotiator with the mysterious capitalists. He is "brassy" and full of assurance. If there is a fence too high to be climbed over he'll crawl under it, somehow, depend upon it. This quality makes up in him for a lack of ability.

Yes; and so did Solomon Moses, black as the ace of spades, late Corporal of the U. S. A., and chosen a delegate for his violence and ignorance displayed in Republican clubs and caucuses. I say it without the slightest prejudice, that were De Chaillu to meet him in a state of nudity in the African forest, he would not hesitate to bring him down as a gorilla; but Solomon quotes scripture fluently, though inaccurately, appears to feel not the least *mauvaise honte* in occupying the floor, and rubs his face complacently when alluded as "the honorable gentleman from New Orleans."

By his side sits Charles Smith, a rather venerable looking remnant of the convention of 1864. The vestiges of champagne and boned turkey, consumed by that never-to-be-forgotten body, are still visible in every wrinkle of that good-natured face. He is a crafty old fox, well in with Governor Flanders, and especially heavy on motions to "lay the whole subject on the table." He sits in the first front seat to the right of the central aisle. To him fell the first choice. The colored members don't think him particularly sound on the goose question. Well, it may be; but, at all events, he is voting with them heart and soul for the present. He voted for the bonds.

—Unfavorable news as to the state of the Pope's health is confirmed by letters from Rome. It is said that during the last few days the sanitary condition of his Holiness has excited considerable anxiety, the energy and firmness which he displayed during the recent political events having been succeeded by a reaction which has occasioned great debility. A report of the death of the Pope was circulated in Paris a day or two since, and some of the journals actually announce the decease of the Holy Father, but an official contradiction has been given to the rumor.

—Twelve hundred tons of steel rails have been substituted for iron ones on the Boston and Providence Railroad. At Roxbury they have been in use for upwards of a year at a point where one hundred and twenty trains or locomotives pass over them daily, but there is, as yet, no perceptible wearing away. Iron rails had to be relaid seventeen times a year at the same place.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

OFFICE OF THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, }
Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1867. }

The Stock Market was inactive this morning, but prices were rather firmer. Government loans continue in fair demand. 10-40s sold at 101½@101¾, a slight advance. 104½ was bid for June and July 7·30s; 112½ for 6s of 1881; 108¼ for '62 5-20s; 105¼ for '64 5-20s; 105½ for '65 5-20s; and 108 for July '65 5 20s. City loans were unchanged; the new issue sold at 99 and old do. at 95, interest off.

Railroad shares, as we have noticed for some time past, were the most active on the list. Camden and Amboy sold at 127¼, an advance of ¼; Pennsylvania Railroad at 50⅝, a slight advance; Reading at 48½@48¾, a slight advance; Philadelphia and Erie at 28½, a decline of ¼; 57 was bid for Minehill; 33 for North Pennsylvania; 40 for Elmira preferred; 23½ for Catawissa preferred, and 42½ for Northern Central.

In City Passenger Railroad shares there was nothing doing. 44½ was bid for Chesnut and Walnut; 64 for West Philadelphia; and 10½ for Hestonville.

Bank shares were firmly held at full prices. Farmers' and Mechanics' sold at 131½, no change, and Commercial at 54, no change. 148 was bid for Philadelphia; 70 for City; and 62 for Commonwealth.

In Canal shares there was more doing. Lehigh Navigation sold at 29⅞@30, closing at the former rate, a decline of ⅛; and Delaware Division at 52, a decline of 1. 12½ was bid for Schuylkill Navigation common; and 12 for Susquehanna Canal.

Quotations of Gold—10½ A. M., 133½; 11 A. M., 133⅝; 12 M., 133⅝; 1 P. M., 133⅝, an advance of ⅛ on the closing price last evening.

—The following letter from Secretary McCulloch puts an end to all doubts, as to his course upon the question of contracting United States notes. The reasons for non-contraction might have been made stronger. The Secretary might have stated that for many months there would be no surplus revenue available for the payment of United States notes, and that his income will be hardly equal to the redemption of the 7·30s, Compound Notes, and past due debts presented for payment. Until the 7·30s are funded, and the Compounds got rid of, no contraction can be made, and probably none will be attempted this side of December, 1868. After another crop is gathered throughout the Union and the short debt is put into long stocks, as will be the case in December, 1868, the attention of Congress can be given to the contraction of the currency with a prospect of success wholly wanting now.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, December 18, 1867.—Sir: Your favor of this instant is received. It is not my intention to retire and cancel any more United States notes this month, nor will the condition of the Treasury and of the country justify me in making the usual contraction in the month of January.

It may be proper for me further to say, that while I entertain the opinion that an early return to specie payments is indispensable to the national prosperity, and that specie payments cannot be restored without a curtailment of the paper circulation of the country, I shall not continue to exercise the power of reducing the circulation of United States notes conferred upon me by the act of April 12, 1866, unless I have reason to suppose that I shall be sustained in doing so by Congress, nor until Congress shall have a full opportunity for determining the future financial policy of the Government. You can, therefore, say to your Committee that there will be no contraction of the currency by the Secretary during the present month or the next. I am, very truly yours,

HUGH MCCULLOCH, Secretary.

Hon. John Sherman, Chairman, etc.

—The N. Y. *Herald* this morning says:—

"Money was in superabundant supply at six per cent. to stock houses in good credit, and large amounts were loaned in not a few instances at five. At the same time a few exceptional transactions for small amounts were reported at seven per cent., which rate the banks still ask from borrowers on miscellaneous collaterals, although they are willing to take six as a rule. The discount line is quiet, and first-class commercial paper passes freely in the open market at 7@8 per cent., most of the business being at 7½. Inferior signatures are, however, out of favor, and it is, therefore, difficult to sell any but the best quality even at high rates. The favorable character of the last bank statement and the prospect of a largely increased supply of loanable funds arising from the payment of the January dividends inspire confidence among bank officers and private money lenders, and there is some pressure to lend in consequence. It is generally expected that the supply of money will be so large in January that call loans will be made mainly at 5 per cent. The Western exchanges are, notwithstanding the active demand for loans and discounts in the Western cities, slightly in favor of this city, and those of the South are so little against us that there are no considerable remittances being made to that section; neither is it probable that there will be, owing to the smallness of the cotton crop and the low price of the staple. The trade of the country is so much depressed that the demand for money from the mercantile community is very light, and lenders are distrustful of all but first-class houses. There is only one field for its employment under such circumstances, and that is in speculation on the Stock Exchange. Hence while trade continues to droop speculation is likely to become active under the stimulating influences of a concentration of idle capital at this centre, and with the opening of the New Year business in Wall street will receive a fresh impetus, however it may be elsewhere."

—The N. Y. *Times* this morning says:—

"The market for Money was dull through the day, and the rates easy to the stock brokers, both at bank and on the street, at 6@7 per cent., with some exceptions as cheap as 5 per cent. on Government collateral. There was a fair business done in the public funds, but mostly at the counters of the great dealers, of an investment character and on out-of-town orders. Late in the day there was a demand for the 5-20s of 1862 on the higher quotations from London, the steadiness in gold, and firmness in exchange. Prices were generally the same as on Saturday. The Stock Exchange was especially excited on Pacific Mail and Erie. In the forenoon the sales of Pacific Mail were large, and prices rapidly on the decline, opening at 110, or 3½ per cent. below the last figure of Saturday, and going down to 108 per cent., from which there was a rally at the Second Board to 110@111½ per cent. In Erie the operations in the morning were to the extent of 15 0 0 or 20,000 shares, and nearly all within 74@74¼@73¾ per cent.; after which the market broke as unexpectedly as it had advanced on Saturday, and the sellers accepted 73@72¾@72¾ per cent. This carried down, though not to the same extent, most of the Western roads, which had been in free demand, and very firm through the morning—Northwest preferred especially so. New York Central was ¼@⅜ per cent. lower than on Saturday night; the St. Paul stocks ½ per cent. Reading continued steady, apparently on out of town orders."

PHILADELPHIA STOCK EXCHANGE SALES TO-DAY
Reported by Dehaven & Bro., No. 40 S. Third street
FIRST BOARD.

$1000 U S 10-40s.cp......101⅝	100 sh Leh N stk........ 29⅞
$2000. do.............101⅝	100 do.........b60. 30
$3000 City 6s, N.c&p..ls 99	31 do.......... 29⅞
$1000 C&Am mt 6s '89... 93	100 do....s30wn.. 29⅞
$5000 Phil & E 6s......ls. 92	50 do..........b5. 29⅞
8 sh C & Am..........c. 127¼	30 sh Penna R...ls.c. 50⅝
1 sh Far & M Bk.....131½	100 sh Read R.........c. 48⅝
56 sh Com'l Bk........ 54	100 sh Ocean Oil........ 3⅝
100 sh Del Division..... 52	

—Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co. quote Government securities, etc., as follows:—U. S. 6s of 1881, 112¼@112½; old 5-20s, 108@108¼; new 5-20s, 1864, 105@105¼; do., 1865, 105½@105¾; do., July, 108@108¼; do., 1867, 108@108¼; 10-40s, 101½@101¾; 7·30s, June, 104¼@104½; do., July, 104¼@104½. Gold, 133½@133⅝.

—Messrs. De Haven & Brother, No. 40 South Third street, report the following rates of exchange to-day at 3 P. M.:—U. S. 6s of 1881, 112¼@112½; do. 1862, 107⅞@108⅛; do., 1864, 105@105¼; do., 1865, 105½@105¾; do., 1865, new, 108@108¼; do., 1867, new, 108@108¼; do. 5s, 10-40s, 101½@101¾; do. 7·30s, June, 104½@104⅝; do., July, 104½@104⅝; Compound Interest Notes, June, 1864, 119·40; do., July, 1864, 119·40; do. August, 1864, 119·40; do., October, 1864, 119·40; do. December, 1864, 119·40; do., May, 1865, 117@117¼; do., August, 1865, 116½@116⅞; do., September, 1865, 115½@115¾; do., October, 1865, 115½@115¾. Gold, 133½@133⅝. Silver, 127½@129.

—Messrs. William Painter & Co., bankers, No. 36 S. Third street, report the following rates of exchange to-day at 12 o'clock:—Gold, 133½@133⅝; U. S. 6s, 1881, 112¼@112½; U. S. 5-20s, 1862, 108@108¼; do., 1864, 105¼@105½; do., 1865, 105½@105¾; do. July, 1865, 108@108¼; do. July, 1867, 108¼@108¼; 5s, 10-40s, 101½@101¾; U. S. 7·30s, 2d series, 104½@104⅝; 3d series, 104½@104⅝; Compound Interest Notes, December, 1864, 119·40; May, 1865, 117¼@117⅞; August, 1865, 116½@116⅞; September, 1865, 115½@115¾; October, 1865, 115½@115¾.

Philadelphia Trade Report.

TUESDAY, Dec. 24.—There is firm feeling in the Flour Market, but not much activity. The demand is extremely limited, and the home consumers are purchasing only enough to supply their immediate wants. Sales of a few hundred bbls. at $7·50@8·25 for superfine, $8·50@9·25 for extras, $10@11 for Northwestern extra family, $11@12 for Pennsylvania and Ohio do. do., $12·75@14 for fancy brands, according to quality. Rye Flour ranges from $8·50 to $8·75. Nothing doing in Corn Meal.

The offerings in Wheat are small, and there is a steady inquiry for prime, but common grades are not much wanted. Sales of 2000 bush. Southern and Pennsylvania red at $2·50@2·55. Rye is held at $1·75@1·78 for Pennsylvania. Corn is quiet, but prices are well maintained. Sales of old yellow at $1·42 1·43, red do. at $1·10@1·22, and new and old Western mixed at $1·30@1·35. Oats are scarce, and 2c. ℔ bushel higher. Sales of 3000 bushels Pennsylvania at 78@80c. Nothing doing in either Barley or Malt.

Bark is unchanged; 16 hhds. No. 1 Quercitron sold at $56 ℔ ton.

Seeds—Cloverseed sells at $7@7·75 ℔ 64 lbs. Prices of Timothy are nominal. Flaxseed is steady at $2·45.

Whisky—Nothing doing.

LATEST SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

For additional Marine News see Inside Pages.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.........DECEMBER 24.

STATE OF THERMOMETER AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

7 A. M.............38 | 11 A. M.............38 | 2 P. M.............42

CLEARED THIS MORNING.

Barque Queen of Scots, Smith, Antwerp, L. Westergaard & Co.
Brig Circassian, Bunker, Havana, John Mason & Co.
Brig Anna, Morrow, Porto Rico, do.
Brig Julia F. Carney, Carney, Cardenas, Warren, Gregg & Morris.
Schr J. W. Wilson, Somers, Aspinwall, Lathbury, Wickersham & Co.
Schr J. B. Clayton, Clayton, Galveston, do.

ARRIVED THIS MORNING.

Steamship Whirlwind, Geer, 2 days from Providence, with mdse. to D. S. Stetson & Co.
Brig Abby Ellen, Orcutt, 7 days from Darien, Ga., with timber to Mershon & Cloud.
Schr Cora Etta, Sleeper, 26 days from Vinalhaven, with granite to captain.
Schr M. G. Farr, Malloy, 5 days from Boston, with mdse. to captain.

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Exchange.

LEWES, Del., Dec. 22—6 P. M.—The barques Chanticleer, from Cardiff for Philadelphia; S. D. Ryerson; Irma; brig A. A. Lane; schrs Southerner; W. H. Tiers; Cerro Gordo; Marcella Tilton; Curtis Tilton, all for Philadelphia, left the Breakwater this morning with a strong SW. wind. Barque Cornwallis has returned to Breakwater. JOSEPH LAFETRA.

MEMORANDA.

Barque Mesco, Wortinger, hence, at Rio Janeiro 8th ult.
Schr B. C. Scribner, Chase, hence, at Key West 10th instant.
Schrs C. E. Paige, Doughty, and Viola, Treworgy, hence, at Boston 21st inst.
Schr A. T. Long, Long, from Boston for Philadelphia, at New York yesterday.
Schr J. H. Burnett, Crowley, from Providence for Philadelphia, at New York yesterday.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Arrived, steamship Cimbria, from Hamburg.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 21.—Arrived, brig Fidelia, Captain White, 47 days from Rio Janeiro, with coffee. She has been ordered to New York. Captain White reports speaking, Nov. 10, the ship Ellen Southard, 103 days from San Francisco, for Liverpool, in lat. 10 50 S., long. 32 15 W.; Nov. 12, English ship Phoenix, Collins, from Cardiff for Shanghai, 34 days out, lat. 8 12 S., long. 33 W.—all on board well. *Left in port* the Rebel ram Stonewall, to sail on Nov. 2. The following vessels were loading at Rio when the Fidelia sailed:—Barque Isaac Davis, Hand; John Bolton, Linsey; and Amazon—destinations not yet known. The ship Shatemue was discharging a cargo of coal, and would sail in a few days for San Francisco.

Arrived in distress, brig Model, Johnson, from Georgetown, S. C., for Boston; lost deck load on the 13th, and had a man washed overboard (a Portuguese) on the 14th inst. in the gale; schr Richard Hill, from Pensacola, via Havana, lost sails in a gale off the coast.

In the Roads, Julia E. Pratt, from Baltimore for Boston, with corn and oats; John Farnum, do; David Collins, do.; Isabella Alberto, from Alexandria for New Bedford, do.; M. A. Tyler, for Providence, do; C. McDougal, for Danversport, Mass., do.; A. S. Freeman, for New York, with oysters; L. Bell, for Providence; brig J. A. Avery, from Bangor for Washington (lost a boat in the gale of 14th); and brig Yankee Blade, Coombs, from Baltimore for Charleston, S. C.

DOMESTIC PORTS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Arrived, steamship Caledonia, from Glasgow.
Steamship North America, Timmerman, from Rio Janeiro.
Steamship Euterpe, Sawyer, from Galveston.