

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1866

NOTICE.

THE partnership of PASSMORE and BARE is this day dissolved by mutual consent...

GEO. PASSMORE, JACOB BARE.

Dec. 16

Fancy Goods

FOR SALE,

At the corner of East street and St. Paul's Lane, No. 10, near the Sheriff's Office.

Turkish Muslin and Leno Robes embroidered and tamboured; Short Dresses, Superb Suffe Gauze. Dancing do. of various colors...

October 8

Reeve & Woodyear's WATER COLOURS.

JUST received, a complete and fresh assortment of the above colours, and for sale very low by ANDERSON & JEFFRIES, No. 65, Market-street.

French Dry Goods & Millinery.

JUST received by the last arrivals in New-York.

Very elegant dress Bonnets, Calculated Do. rich and elegant dresses, for the Gowns, White, Black, Brown and Beaver Feathers, Extra Rich Figured Velvets, different colors...

Men's do. do. do. Extra superior Linen Cambric, Damask Silk Shawls, and different other articles, for sale cheap for cash, or approved notes at sixty days. Apply at No. 35, NORTH FREDERICK-ST.

The Subscriber

HAVING commenced the FLOUR and GROCERY BUSINESS at No. 116, North Howard-street, opposite to Messrs. Isaac Phillips & Co solicits the patronage of his friends, acquaintances, and the public in general.

Dec 18.

Strayed away on the 16th

instant, a spotted brown and white COW; the principle part of her head and face white large horns, about 8 or 9 years old, has appearance of giving a good deal of milk. Whoever brings said Cow to the subscriber, living in Duke-street, O.d-Town, shall receive Five Dollars Reward.

Dec 18

JAMES JINNINGS.

Information Wanted.

IF Mr. GEORGE HORTON, Brick-Layer, a native of the state of Rhode-Island, who removed to this city, about 3 or 4 years past, will call at the office of the American, he will hear of something to his advantage.

December 19

Bourbon and Laguirra Coffee.

THE subscriber has just received and offers for sale, 33 m's Old Bourbon COFFEE, 42 sacks 1st quality Laguirra do.

Dec 18

WM. WOODS.

Advertisement.

WAS brought before the subscriber this day December 17, 1866, a Stray MAIRE, by Mr. Daniel Decandry, Gardener, on Federal Hill, near the powder magazine, of a dun color, with a white nose and tail, and blind of an eye; appears to be about 9 or 10 years old, and is about 13 and a half hands high, is without shoes, saddle or bridle. The owner may have her again on application to M. Decandry.

December 18

JOHN YOUNG, J. P.

30 Dollars Reward.

LOST on the 16th inst. a Red Morocco POKET BOOK, containing 11 small pieces of paper including Union Bank Notes, and directed as follows, to wit:

- Joseph Husband, 3 108 John Fisher, 1 10 and one 5 H Niles, 4 10 John Judd, 2 10 Henry and Co., 3 10 J. Bowsman, 1 10 and one 2 Erasmus Under, 2 10 Thomas Boyle, 1 10 David Wilson, 1 10 William Rhee, 1 10 Enoch Churchman, 1 10

Four notes of hand at 6 months for 100 dollars each, drawn and endorsed by M. & J. H. Macklefresh, An account of W. Waters, receipted—241 dollars 88 cents.

Dec. 20

THOMAS CAMPBELL.

J. B. SAYRE

RETURNS his sincere thanks to his friends and the public for their liberal patronage under his former licence as auctioneer and commission merchant, and informs them he has opened his

Auction & Commission Ware-Room.

No. 61, M'Eldey's Buildings, where he hopes by active exertions, and the strictest attention, to the interest of those who may favor him with their commands, to merit their confidence and support.

The Auction Room will be opened on Thursday the 18th inst. and will be daily attended for the reception of Goods. The first Sale by Auction on TUESDAY EVENING, the 30th inst.

Dec 17

CONGRESS.

SENATE OF THE U. STATES.

MONDAY, December 19.

Mr. Mitchell from the committee appointed on the 5th instant, to take into consideration that part of the message of the President of the United States, of December 2d, 1866, which relates to the protection of the sea-port, harbors, and waters of the United States, made a report as follows:

It appears from the communication of the Secretary at war, made to Congress on the 18th February, 1866, that several of the public works erected in different parts of the nation, for the purposes of defence, stood in need of finishing or repairs. The condition of the fortifications at Fort Sumner, in Maine, Fort Constitution, in New-Hampshire, Fort Independence, in Massachusetts, Fort Adams and Wolfot, in Rhode-Island, Fort Trumbull, in Connecticut, Fort Jay, in New-York, Fort Mifflin, in Pennsylvania, Fort M'Henry, in Maryland, Fort Nelson, in Virginia, Fort Johnston, in North Carolina, Forts Moultrie, Pinckney, and Johnson, in South Carolina, Fort Green, in Georgia, and of forts St. Louis, St. Charles, and St. Philip, in Orleans, and of the various other forts and military stations, is well known to the war department, and only requires appropriations of money from year to year, to enable the needful additions to be made.

It is therefore deemed unnecessary to enter into a detailed enumeration of their respective wants. But the committee cannot forbear to make mention of New-York, Charleston, and New-Orleans.

They are fully sensible of the great and growing importance of New-York; its exposed situation is a subject of public and general concern. It is agreed that the national power ought to be employed in its protection. The attention of the executive was therefore turned to that object during the summer and autumn of 1866; and upwards of 25,000 dollars were expended in repairing and enlarging in the most substantial manner the works on Governor's Island. These are progressing with all convenient speed; and though at this moment suspended on account of the rigor of the season, the committee has had the satisfaction to learn that the labor will be resumed with the cessation of the cold, and be readily continued until both the city and harbor shall be put into a respectable state of defence. By the fortifications which it is intended to construct upon the different favorable positions which the land affords both above and below Governor's Island, skillful engineers conceive that so much will be done as to repel every ordinary assault of ships, and of all other force less than an invading army. The intended substitution of permanent structures of solid masonry, instead of wood and sand, will indeed require more time for their completion; but an ample compensation for this will be found eventually in their greater strength and durability.

The fortifications at Charleston, South Carolina, having been almost totally ruined by the severe hurricane of 1864, measures have been already adopted to rebuild them in the best manner that the situation of the ground admits.

Preparations are also making for the protection of New-Orleans, and the mouth of the Mississippi, and evince a similar attention to the public interests in that quarter.

The committee, however, has not judged it necessary to particularize the specific sums which it may be needful to apply to each of these important objects. There would be considerable difficulty in this, for want of circumstantial and minute information. They therefore believe it will be sufficient to recommend an ample appropriation in gross, for the repair of existing fortifications, and the erection of such new ones as may be required; and to leave the expenditure of the same, where the general safety or local welfare shall demand it, to the ample information and sound discretion of the executive.

Under these considerations the committee ask leave to report a bill, making further appropriations for fortifying the ports and harbors of the U. States, and for building gun-boats.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, December 19.

Speech of Mr. ELLIOT, on giving notice of his intention to move certain resolutions upon the subject of National Defence.

I will presume, Mr. Speaker, for the honor of my country, that but one sentiment has pervaded and agitated the American mind, in relation to what has been called, with more energy indeed than propriety, the blockade of the port of New-York, in April last by a small British naval force, and the atrocious murder of our fellow citizen, John Pierce, while in the peaceable pursuit of his honest occupation, by the order of the officer commanding that force. At that melancholy moment, when a dark cloud seemed to overshadow our political prospects, the laws of our country were, to borrow one of the bold figures of antiquity, silent amidst arms; they were languid, they were lifeless, when they ought to have been energetic and irresistible. The executive made a prompt and patriotic use of the few and feeble means which the laws had placed in his power; but few and feeble indeed they were, and the most energetic exercise of them could not, in a degree calculated to add lustre to the national character, command the respect of foreign nations.—I have not ascertained whether John Pierce was the father of a family: If such should be found to be the fact, and if some doubts which I have been led to entertain of the constitutionality of the proposition should be dissipated by further investigation, I shall probably deem it my duty to propose that his children shall be educated at the public expense. I am opposed from principle to the erection of monuments, except in cases of a very extraordinary character; and in this case there can be no necessity for any thing of that kind, as Pierce will have sufficient monuments in the memory of his fellow citizens, and in the pages of his country's history.

But it is not my present purpose to compose an epicetium upon Pierce, or to move the erection of his monument. I have objects of more consequence in view.—At the time of the occurrence of the unfortunate event to which I have alluded, and ever since, the question must have been continually inviting public attention, must have been commanding

and irresistibly forcing itself, upon public attention, have we not, or do not we pretend to have, a naval armament for the purposes of national defence and protection? We have indeed the shadow of a navy. Economical, excessively economical, as we are, we have already wasted millions upon our infant navy to no useful purpose; and we are in a very fair way to waste millions more. The event which I have mentioned has, at least I am greatly mistaken if it has not, prepared the public mind for a discussion and decision upon two important questions, relative to the naval establishment. First, whether it be not proper under existing circumstances, to augment in some small degree, that establishment? Secondly, whether, supposing the establishment to be increased or to remain as it is, it be not proper, it be not indispensably necessary, to organize and manage it in a different manner from what has been heretofore practised; to give it more efficiency and more energy? To these questions it is my intention to invite the attention of this House and the American nation.

It is time however to think and talk of something else besides our little navy;—that armament, which the wicked wits of our own country, and the still more wicked politicians of the old world, have called a Lilliputian navy; and which the latter description of persons, rather the most important of the two, in point of influence upon human character and human happiness, affect to consider as the disgrace of America, the ridicule of Europe. It is time to extend our views. It is time (if we can elevate our enfeebled optics to a more ample field of political vision) to look over the St. Croix on the one hand, and the Sabine on the other, to behold the course of events in other regions of the world, to reflect upon the influence of those events on our own concerns and to enquire: and understand how our own interests are affected by or involved in them. It is time to explode the narrow, the ridiculous, the all destroying policy, that would dictate to the people of this west in world a total unconcernedness about the scenes that are displayed in the other regions of the globe. It is time to know who and where we are, and what will probably be our future destiny. In a word, it is time to change our system. What is the news of the day? Here many will inquire, what have we to do with the news of the day? And some will consider it a species of treason to interest ourselves in the fortunes of other nations. Treason against whom or what? Against the power of France, I suppose for it can be treason against nothing else. But what is the news, and what is it to us—rumor announces that Prussia—Prussia one of the first men relics of Europe, has fallen! Fallen in a war purely in defence of the integrity of her territory! She has had the singular fate to fall unpilled, and yet covered with imperishable glory: Unconquered by superior courage or even by superior discipline, but overwhelmed by numbers. And what have the people of republican America to do with the destruction of Prussia? Why, sir, upon every sober and solid principle of human calculation, it is our turn next. I will undertake to demonstrate, on some future day, that except in point of local situation, except our remoteness from the great scene of European action, we occupy substantially the same ground that Prussia did, ante bellum; and that we ought to prepare ourselves to avert the same awful fate; I shall deem it my duty when I go into this subject, to take a view of the present state of almost all the world; and if I prove not the fact which I have stated I will instantly descend from this seat. Descend did I say? No. I am not so fond of going down hill—I will ascend to a place among that most illustrious body, the people.—Prussia was required to give up some provinces of her dominions or have them taken from her. So are we. It will be said not, by the same power; but it shall be shown to the satisfaction of this nation (or we ourselves know already) that it ought to be so considered by us. The demand is made by Spain, a power which all the world knows to be subservient to the policy of France in her concerns with the United States, in consequence of a treaty of alliance offensive and defensive between the two nations, to say the least of their connections. Improving this important, this solemn fact, not a word shall be said concerning certain documents, concerning certain documents, which have derived most astonishing celebrity from their impenetrable obscurity. "No, Mr. Speaker, I will not disturb the repose of your seat, or that of the chairman of the committee of the whole on a future day, by any transgression of the rules of the House, I will not wander for a moment from the circle of the present order. Nothing shall be said of the contents of those documents; but much, very much, shall be said of what they do not contain, and much of what the people may have suspected that they do contain; and regret shall again and again be expressed, that our superiors and masters, the sovereign people of this great nation, whom in all things else we delight to honor, are not permitted to see, examine, reflect and decide upon them for themselves. In the mean time, I say, change your system of foreign policy. We must enlarge our views and alter our course of conduct, or we shall deserve the chains that are forging for us. Political life and death are set before you. Choose ye

therefore, whether ye will live or die.

Let me not be misunderstood. I approve the domestic administration of the government of this country, and the general system which the executive is pursuing in relation to our concerns with foreign nations; approve it with all my heart, and will support it with all my powers. And how is all this to be reconciled with the declaration that we must change our system? The easiest thing in the world. The system of national defence and protection is a part of your foreign politics, strictly considered, rather than of domestic politics. And where and what are your arrangements for national defence? Or rather, is not your country almost totally defenceless?—We, we ourselves, not the executive, we the immediate representatives of the people, hold the purse strings of the nation; and the world has long looked on with astonishment, not unmingled with contempt, at the miserly but convulsive grasp with which we embrace them. And what is the state of our finances? Is it such as to render necessary this extreme parsimony?—With an overflung treasury; with an accumulation of revenue, which enables us to purchase empires, and at the same time rapidly reduce a debt, the pressure of which no man feels or ever can feel; with a debt which is but the dust of the balance in which are suspended our national resources; our naval establishment is inferior to that which was possessed by the little state of Ragusa, the last of the republics of the ancient world, previously to its recent destruction by the power of France: Ragusa, which possessed but one considerable port perhaps twenty or thirty miles of barren sea coast, and a population of from 80,000 to 120,000 souls. Apitopos of Ragusa. Who would not mourn for Ragusa? Every republican on earth ought to shed a tear for its fate! Who were the Ragusans? Were they among the conspirators against the liberties and national independence of France, who are said to have held their caucuses at Pimutz and at Favia? Were they subsidized by British gold? Were they the enemies of any people on the globe? Ah! No They were a simple, peaceful, unambitious, industrious, virtuous, republican people. They were so far from being the enemies of any nation, that they were the friends of all the world; that they might enjoy the privilege of managing their own concerns in their own manner, as to their domestic legislation, they always paid tribute to every nation that demanded tribute from them; and on this humiliating condition they were suffered to exist as a republic through almost all the revolutions of ages. They did exist—they are now slaves! And it is a memorable fact that the Emperor of France has not even pretended that the Ragusans were hostile to his interests. Political necessity alone justifies, or at tempts to justify, the seizure of their dominions. And when would their fate be ours, if the means of destruction were at hand? To morrow!

It is certainly time to think and act with more energy. This great and solemn subject has long attracted my attention, and occupied my silent reflections. Our local habitation is our only security. Were it not for the vast waves of the vast ocean, it would be the merest folly that could be imagined, to tie up your roof with those things; that dangle so delightfully over our heads. Were it not for that noble and all protecting element, why in the name of heaven would you prep up these tottering walls any longer? Let them alone, and crazy as they are, and they are crazy enough in all conscience, they would last ten times as long as the noble structure of your republic itself! At least ten times as long. But many think we are in no danger. They must be very pious men, they must have a confidence in Divine Providence, in which I should not like to be behind them; or they must possess a degree of self-confidence, the possession of which I do not envy them. Does any one believe that our army and navy, that our militia, numerous, brave and patriotic as it is, could resist for a moment three millions of European veterans in arms? Could we resist the power of France, if that power could be brought to bear upon us? He who could say so, should wander into the wilderness, he should go at least to the extreme limit of the desert heath that surrounds us, and talk to the woods and to the winds. No human ear should listen for a moment with patience to such idle fanfare. One word more upon the subject of our treasury, and our debt. It has frequently been said that the present is the age of wonders; and we have another proof of it this very session within these walls. Could you call old Solomon himself from the "valley deep," and give him a seat among us—and as he would be but a shade, I suppose you would consider him only as a kind of territorial delegate, with a right of debating, but not of voting—could you get him here, the very first step of his parliamentary career would be to move to strike out a section of the sacred volume, inserted by his own pen; the words, there is nothing new under the sun. In the journal of our proceedings upon the president's message, we have a record of this sort—"Resolved, that so much of the message of the president of the United States, as relates to the future appropriation of the surplus revenues, &c. be referred to a select committee." This is a new kind of committee of Ways and Means. It must be called, I suppose, committee of Ways and Means, No. 2. Committees of this description, organized for the purpose of devising means to carry on the great concerns of nations, are of some antiquity; but this is the first committee that has ever been created for the purpose of devising ways and means to get rid of the surplus monies of a government. I can point the gentlemen of this committee to an object worthy of their attention; the defence of our country opens an ample and honorable field for their labors. But it is time to discontinue my own system more particularly. I will keep the house in suspense no longer. I would imitate the magnanimous, but at the same time very prudent policy of the emperor of Austria, approved, or at least not censured by the emperor of France himself, by establishing a powerful armed neutrality. I would organize a general and efficient system of national defence. Here again let me not be misunderstood. I am no friend to large armies and navies, of new and oppressive taxes. The system should be economical as well as energetic.

Upon this subject I have long waited, but I have not opened his lips; and I believe the same would be a dereliction of what I do in one of the first and dearest interests of my country.— Perhaps in my manner of conducting my investigations and objects, although I have been communicable to every day's practice in the British Parliament, I may not have been considered as conforming perfectly to the rules of order here; but if order has been violated, the transgression shall not be repeated. I have risen at this time merely to call the attention of the House to the subject, and to give notice, that I shall, on Tuesday next week, (as it is proper to lead the public mind gradually to the contemplation of concerns of such importance) offer to the consideration of the House, a series of resolutions, the objects of which will be—

To produce a discussion and decision upon the two great questions which I have mentioned, relative to the naval establishment: To introduce, at all events, into the organization and management of that establishment a new and more efficient system: And to prepare and organize other measures, calculated for the further and more effectual protection of the commerce, the sea-man, the harbors, the coasts, and the countries, of the United States.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 20.

FROM LEGHORN.—A gentleman who arrived here yesterday from Leghorn, gives the following sketch of political affairs in Italy:

Messina had passed Monteleone, and Verdi was at Capriano. It was expected that the advanced guard of the French army had arrived at Reggio.

The French had passed the Turkish dominions and entered Ragusa with 6000 men: Gen. Luriston had arrived by water in a small vessel.

The Montenegrins had retired with the booty they had collected, and refused to join the Russians again. The latter had been repulsed in their attack of a fort near the Bocca di Cattaro with the loss of 600 men. Admiral Senaren was still of Cattaro, and had twice refused to give it up. The Russian army had retired to that vicinity. French troops from the Black sea were daily expected at the Seven Islands.

Sir Sidney Smith has returned to Messina, with the Chiefs of the Etruscans. Marshal Jordan had returned to Paris. 600 Pollocks had arrived at Capri; and of the 18,000 men ordered for Naples, only 3000 were permitted to go. In Naples executions were very common, and scarcely a day passed without five or six persons being put to death; which induced several of the first families there to go to Rome.

A bastion at Malta had been destroyed by the explosion of a magazine. This accident happened during a parade, and 600 persons lost their lives—chiefly soldiers. Part of the town was damaged, and much property destroyed.

IMPORTANT.

Buenos-Ayres retaken.—Mr. Hall, a passenger in the brig Adeline, captain Wickham, 18 days from Havanna, has sent us from Gravesend Bay, the following important intelligence:

Two or three days previous to the sailing of the Adeline, news was received from Panama, stating, that accounts had just been received there (the 20th of October,) of the re-capture of Buenos-Ayres, on the 8th of August, by a naval commander, named Don St. Jago Le Nair, at the head of 1500 troops, and 3 or 400 hundred volunteers; that they had killed about 500 and took about 1000 Englishmen prisoners, including in the latter commander KIRKLEY, and a number of officers. The Spanish troops were from Montevideo, and were carried up the river about 24 miles N. W. of Buenos-Ayres; to the river Conchos, in launches and small vessels. It appeared to have been an enterprize of Le Nair and his followers unknown to the Spanish government.

P. S. The accounts received at the Havanna make no mention of The English shipping." [Evening Post.

REMARKS.

This report would appear to be rather extravagant. In the first place, as to the very circuitous manner in which the news has come. It comes from Panama to Havanna—from Havanna to New-York. Buenos-Ayres lies in lat. 34, 35, S. long. 56, 26, W. Panama which is on the other side of the Pacific ocean, is in lat. 8, 48, N. long. 80, 15, W. Supposing a straight line to be struck, and not calculating for weaving, the distance from Buenos-Ayres to Panama would be 2593 miles! Then from Panama to Havanna, which latter place is in lat. 23, 12, N. long. 32, 13, W. the distance is at least 1000 miles more, in a straight line. The news must have gone from Buenos Ayres to Panama by land, and must have taken at least a month, for every body knows the inconvenience of travelling through that country. Then from Panama to Havanna—and then from the Havanna to this place. Now, several vessels from Buenos Ayres have been spoken at sea within eight weeks past, who did not relate any thing of this extraordinary intelligence. People's Friend.