ABSTRACTS OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE.

The report of Land Commissioner Edmonds is voluminous—covering altogether 113 foolscap pages. It is brought down to the 30th ult.

The Commissioner shows that during the year ending 30th June, 1861, there have been returned to this office as surveyed..... Acres. 7,972,572.70

And for the quarter ending 30th September, 1861, an additional area of..... 610,148.65

Making an aggregate of acres returned surveyed since 30th June, 1860, and not yet offered..... 8,582,121.35

To this may be added lands surveyed prior to 1st July, 1860, and not yet offered, the quantity of..... 49,053,170.00

Making an aggregate area of surveyed unoffered..... 55,635,295.35

On hand 30th September, 1861, liable to proclamation, and subject to pre-emption prior to the actual offering thereof at public sale.

To this may be added surveyed lands heretofore offered, in different land States and Territories, which were liable to "private sale," and also to pre-emption on 30th September, 1861, being..... 78,662,705.64

In the aggregate..... Acres. 134,298,000.99

Making a total surveyed, unsold, offered and unoffered, on 30th September, 1861, of..... 134,218,320.69

Since last annual report no new proclamation has been issued for the sale of public lands.

In the year ending 30th June, 1861, there were

	Acres.
Disposed of for cash.....	1,465,633.57
For $84,387 02 160.	
Located with Bounty Land Warrants.....	2,017,440.00
Certified under Railroad Grants to Minnesota, Michigan and Louisiana.....	1,021,403.77
Approved and certified in same year, as Swamp lands.....	559,125.16
Making an aggregate disposed of during the year ending 30th June, 1861.....	5,103,602.44
For the quarter ending 30th September, 1861, there were sold (part estimate) for cash.....	42,140.30
For $40,412 39.	
Located by Bounty Warrants (part estimate).....	126,530.00
Approved in same quarter, to States as swamp lands.....	6,669.67
Total quantity disposed of.....	5,280,542.31

For the five quarters, ending 30th September, 1861, aggregate cash receipts during that period being $925,299 42.

THE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES AND THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The operations of the land system, in the disposal of the public lands, have been checked and depressed by the political difficulties of the country, growing out of the hostile attitude assumed towards the United States by the authorities controlling in the States in revolt against the Federal authority. Notwithstanding these causes, and the necessary withdrawal for military service of a large number of our citizens from agricultural employment, the general disturbance of trade, and the excitement affecting the social system, the energy of our people and the vigor of our institutions appear, in this connection, in the fact that, unaided by public sales of fresh lands, actual settlements have increased the greater portion, it is believed, of over three millions and a half of acres, which have been sold for cash, or located by warrants, being for actual settlement, adding, by estimate, forty thousand new farms of eighty acres to the wealth of the Republic.

PLENTY OF FERTILE LAND LEFT.

Under the head of New Territories, the Commissioner gives in detail the record of land surveys and movements in Dacotah, the largest of all the organized Territories, and in Colorado and Nevada. Dacotah, he says, contains 209,217,280 acres of land, and he discusses it at length as follows:

The lands of the Territory are reported as being of the most healthy character; the climate healthy.

The returns of the Deputy Surveyors indicate singular richness and uniformity of soil—the bottom lands of the Missouri and other rivers furnishing a splendid natural meadows—the prairie, which is high and rolling, being covered with rich pasturage. The Surveyor-General reports that the capacity of the Territory for stock-raising cannot be over estimated.

Colorado, the new Territory at the base of the Rocky Mountains, includes 67,850,000 acres of land. The Surveyor General reports that the valleys of the Platte and Arkansas, with their mountains, are being cultivated with success. The plains situated in the Eastern portion of the Territory are not so suitable for tillage as for grazing purposes.

The new Territory of Nevada, formerly constituting the Western portion of the Territory of Utah, and embracing a strip from the Eastern side of California, contains 41,312,000 acres of land. There are difficulties here in regard to Mormon surveys, which are decided to be invalid. Of the value of the territory for settlers the Commissioner says:

The Walker Valley, above Walker Lake, Indian Reservation, is represented as containing about 200,000 acres suitable for settlement.

The Truckee River Valley, eighty miles above Pyramid Lake, Indian Reservation, contains a large amount of the best lands in the Territory fit for agricultural and grazing purposes, occupied by settlers holding extensive claims of from one to three thousand acres, under color of Utah Territorial legislation.

The Surveyor General reports that the population of Nevada Territory is 17,000, mostly found in towns and mining districts, the latter possessing unlimited mineral resources, which are being largely developed.

CALIFORNIA, OREGON AND WASHINGTON.

The Commissioner then goes into surveys in California, and makes several valuable suggestions for the better development of the mineral and other resources of the Golden State.

Since the commencement of land operations in the State to the 30th of September, 1861, there have been proclaimed and offered, the aggregate quantity of 11,282,241 acres. The total case receipts for same period were $26,047 07. Total area covered by land warrant locations, 3,02[illegible] acres.

Work has also been pushed on in Oregon and in Washington Territory, of which latter it is reported that recent discovery has been made of very rich gold placers in the Nez Perces country, along the valley of the Clearwater River, an affluent of Snake River, and that nearly ten thousand people are there, who, it is supposed, will remain all the farming lands. The region for the principal ports, will be upon the Upper Columbia and the rivers and bays of the Pacific Ocean.

IN NEW MEXICO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, ETC

been extended over many private land claims and grants. Among others, the valleys of Rio de las Animas and Rio de la Plata are reported as being among the finest agricultural valleys of the continent, and abounding in bituminous coal.

It is also represented that the valleys of the Rio de las Animas and San Juan are strewn with the ruin of cities, many of them of solid masonry. Stone buildings, three stories high, are yet standing, of Aztec architecture.

Coal, also, has been discovered in various places.

No public lands have been surveyed in Utah Territory since the year 1857, there being no Land District organized for the disposal of 2,500,000 acres already surveyed, and no demand for purchase from the United States.

The regions of the Valley of the Uintah River, a tributary of Green or Colorado river, in Utah, situated about sixty miles south of Fort Bridger, is represented as the best agricultural lands, abounding in pine and other timber, watered by several streams, affording valuable water-power, and presenting great inducements to settlers.

Returns are not made of the Surveyors' work done in Kansas and Nebraska, and in urging the extension of the surveys, the Surveyor General represents it as his duty to the settlers to state that many of them have left their families and are enrolled under the flag of the Union, and may be confidently looking to the Government to secure homes to their wives and children.

The best lands in Kansas are reported to be situated south of those already surveyed, which adjoin the Cherokee and Osage lands, a belt of twenty-six miles, to which Indian title has not yet been extinguished.

Returns are also made of the Surveying service in Wisconsin and Iowa, in Minnesota and Missouri, and also in Louisiana and Florida, up to the time when those States acceded.

The Commissioner thinks that in this period of disquietude and excitement in public affairs, the Treasury may expect but little from the investments of capital in the public lands, and equally inconsiderable results from emigration, kept back, as it is, by like causes from the wide fields of the public domain.

THE PRE-EMPTIONS OF SOLDIERS.

The attention of this office has been drawn to the condition of persons claiming pre-emptions, wishing to enlist in the military service of the United States during the war, and who were desirous of ascertaining whether such pre-emptions will be protected during the absence of the claimants.

Entertaining no doubt of the justice of the principle which would protect the interests of claimants under such circumstances, it has received the sanction of this office, with this qualification—that the pre-emptor is an actual resident upon and cultivator of the tract claimed; that he has filed his declaratory statement, and in all things shall have fully met the requirements of the pre-emption law *up to the period* of his entrance into the military service of the country, for its defence and the maintenance of the Government. In that case we hold that the time of actual service will not run against him so as to result in forfeiture, provided notice of the time of entry into and termination of service is promptly filed with the Register and Receiver, and such steps are taken as will show a *bona fide* intention to return to the tract by leaving his family on the land, where he has one, and where no family, that the premises shall be placed in proper charge for the pre-emptor, so that residence and cultivation shall be continued when the military service is at an end; and then, where the pre-emption law in all other respects shall have been fully complied with, the grounds of exemption should be established when the proving up takes place as preliminary to payment and actual purchase.

MILITARY LAND-WARRANTS.

The history of our country shows the liberality of Congress in dealing with the officers and soldiers of every war in which we have been engaged.

The Commissioner goes into a history of the legislative action on the subject, but proposes no system for present guidance.

He also discusses the subject of swamp and overflowed lands—of railroad land grants—of minerals—of the Eastern boundary of California, and other interesting questions relating to the operations of the Land Office.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

The business of the Department of the Interior has lost much of its usual interest through the interruption of commercial and agricultural pursuits by the war. The General Land Office, especially, shows the results of this decline. The army has swallowed up almost entirely the class of enterprising men who are usually the purchasers of Government lands, and sales in the Northern States are almost suspended. On the 30th of September last, there was an aggregate of 134,218,320 acres of lands surveyed and ready for sale. During the fifteen months, ending Sept. 30, 1861, the department disposed of 5,280,522 acres. Of this amount over two millions of acres have been located with bounty land warrants; one and a half million acres sold for cash; about 1,025,000 acres and about a million granted to Louisiana, Michigan and Minnesota for railroad purposes. The war has thus reduced the receipts of the office to a point but little above the expenditures of the department, its net income during the year being but $200,000. The bounty land warrants and scrip issued up to Sept. 30, 1861, cover an aggregate of 71,717,172 acres. The lands have been distributed thus:

	Acres.
For revolutionary services.....	5,000,000
For service in the British war.....	4,850,120
For Canadian volunteers.....	72,760
For services in the Mexican war, &c.....	51,158,970
Yet to be located on warrants and scrip already issued.....	7,454,720

The report questions the propriety of issuing bounty land warrants to the volunteers now in the national army. A warrant for 160 acres to each volunteer would absorb over 100,000,000 acres. The warrants are now sold in the market at fifty cents per acre; and an attempt to realize on their warrants would depress the soldiers' bounty to even a much lower value. Speculators would buy up lands largely under such circumstances, and would be the chief gainers by these public benefactions. The Secretary, therefore, recommends that the volunteers be paid either in cash or by government securities.

It is suggested that in lieu of the mineral lands of California and New Mexico being free, the government shall make them a source of revenue by levying a charge for the privilege of working the mines. The report makes a strange statement respecting the commission appointed to "run and mark the boundary lines between the Territories of the United States and the State of California." Fifty five thousand dollars was appropriated for the work by Congress, and $37,551 of the amount placed at the disposal of Sylvester Mowry, the commissioner for the United States. The Secretary finds, however, that the whole of the latter sum and twenty thousand dollars more had been expended, and the work only just begun. The running of boundary lines between the United States Territories and Texas has been completed.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Indian affairs are in a very unsatisfactory state. The Cherokees, Chickasaws, and Choctaws have suspended all intercourse with the agents of the Federal Government, the Southern agents who were in office on the 4th of March having employed their influence in inciting those tribes to revolt. The department has no official advices preliminary of the newspaper reports that a portion of the natives have been organized as a military force. The withdrawal of the Federal troops and the employment of threats by the rebel agents, coupled with promises that the Confederate Government would assume the responsibility of their annuities, have been the chief means of tribes has been suspended, but the Secretary recommends that Congress shall make the usual appropriations, so as to provide for the fulfillment of the treaty stipulations if it should afterwards be found expedient to pay the annuities.

The tribes on the Pacific slope have shown symptoms of turbulence. The withdrawal of troops from New Mexico has given license for the committal of depredations by a band of the tribes in that territory. The tribes in Kansas and Nebraska are loyal and progressing in civilization. The treaties recently made with the Indians have been so shamelessly abused, by cheating the natives and selling their goods at a profit of three to four hundred per cent, that the Secretary recommends that all such licenses be revoked, and the Indians supplied with goods and implements only through the agents of the department.

THE PATENT OFFICE.

No department show more severely the effects of the war on our industries than the Patent office. Instead of being a source of revenue, the expenditures of the department from Nov. 1 to Sept. 30, 1861, exceeded its receipts by $42,782. This has necessitated the discharge of thirty clerks and the reduction of the salaries of those retained. The report complains that clerks of the U. S. District Courts fail to forward copies of works copyrighted at their offices, the object of collecting in one library copies of all the copyright literary productions of the country being thereby defeated. To remedy this, it is proposed that the sole power of granting copyrights be delegated to the Commissioner of Patents.

The number of pensions during the year has diminished 175, and the payments $43,210. On the 30th June there were 10,749 pensioners on the roll, requiring an aggregate payment of $2,257,772. The pension laws have been construed as authorizing the payment of pensions to invalids and the widows and children of soldiers who have been wounded or killed during the existing insurrection. Pensioners in the rebel States, who have taken up arms against the Government, are deprived of the payment of their pensions.

EIGHTH CENSUS.

The report promises that a digest of the long expected census shall shortly appear. The result, it is said, will prove the last decade to have been a period of the most substantial progress realized in the history of the country. It is strongly urged on Congress that, to supply a public want generally felt, a bureau of statistics and agriculture shall be added to the Department of the Interior, which has the recommendation of not adding to the expenditure of the office.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

By an order of last May the execution of the law for the suppression of the slave trade was confided to this department. The Secretary connected the marshals of all the loyal Atlantic States at New York, and explained to them all the devices of the traffic. The result of this energy has been the capture and condemnation of five vessels. One person has been convicted as the captain of a slaver, and sentenced to death, the first instance of a capital conviction on record; and another has been found guilty of fitting out a slaver at Boston. Within a little more than a year, 1,595 Africans recaptured by our cruisers have been taken into the Republic of Liberia, through the agency of the American Colonization Society.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The report on the military complains of great inconvenience from the want of a suitable court-house, owned by the government, in the city of New York, and recommends that Burton's Theatre be bought for that purpose at the price of $215 000.

An extension of the Capitol grounds, the erection of a new jail in the city of Washington, and the formation of a street railroad through Pennsylvania avenue, are the principal recommendations of the Commissioner of Public Buildings.

Under the new arrangement for the Congressional printing, a saving of fifty per cent. has been effected on the work for the executive departments; and in the binding, a reduction of about $1,000 per month.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE FEMALE HOUSE OF REFUGE—*Opening Ceremonies.*—The ceremony of the formal opening of the Female House of Refuge took place yesterday morning, and was attended by a large number of the friends and donors of the Institution. Among the prominent friends of the Institution present was the widow of the late George Brown, Esq., the founder of the House of Refuge. The Continues of Mr. Brown and those of his estimable lady, in aid of this great charity, sum up, in the aggregate, $12,200. The building designated as the "Female House of Refuge" is a stone structure, three stories in height, and in its style of architecture is similar to that of the building occupied by the males. All the necessary arrangements for the comfort and convenience of the inmates are of the most ample and complete character, and the work is a lasting monument of the liberality of those who have contributed to its construction.

The exercises yesterday were opened with singing by the children, after which Rev. David Wilson offered a fervent prayer to Almighty God, in which, after rendering thanks for and in the past, he invoked His blessing for the future upon the institution and its many friends. After singing again by the children, Rev. Dr. Backus, of this city, delivered an address in the course of which he referred to the efforts made by our generous and public spirited citizens for the amelioration of the condition of the fallen females in our midst. He spoke of the good which had already been done, as well as what could be done, by proper efforts being put forth in the right direction, under the blessing of our Heavenly Father. The venerable gentleman referred to the situation as being an honor to Baltimore, and a monument to greater glory than any that could be erected to commemorate the deeds of the brave warriors or the enlightened and patriotic statesmen.

He concluded by an eloquent appeal to all Christians to stand by this noble institution as one of the most worthy objects of charity, and commended it to the consideration of an enlightened and Christian community. At the close of his address, the children sang a hymn, and the Rev. Thomas H. Pritchard offered up prayer. Another song by the children, and the benediction by Rev. T. H. W. Sharon, closed the ceremony. The exercises throughout were interspersed with music by the Female House of Refuge Band.

FATAL FIRE—CONSTABLE BURNING.—Yesterday morning about seven o'clock, a negro woman servant in the house of a man named Tallerand, living on Holliday street, opposite the old City Hall, was walking across the kitchen floor with a camphene lamp in her hand, when it burst, scattering the fluid over her clothing. In one instant she was surrounded with flames. She ran out into the entry of the main building, where her screams attracted the attention of the members of the family, who went to her assistance. The front door was open at the time and a number of persons rushed in from the street, but before the flames could be extinguished her entire person was so frightfully burnt that it is thought impossible for her to recover. Dr. Doyle was sent for and rendered medical attention. Her name is Henrietta Ayre, and she lives in Short street.

SPELLING A POCKET BOOK.—A man named Franklin Smith was arrested yesterday on the charge of stealing a pocket book, the property of Eliza Shenkle, living at the corner of Henrietta and Hanover streets. He was committed for Court by Justice Nalls.

FOR COURT.—Yesterday Jacob Kingsley was arrested, charged with breaking down the door, and taking possession of a house on Abbott street, the property of Lewis Williams. He was committed for Court by Justice Nalls.

RELEASE OF MAYOR BROWN.—We are informed that Mayor Brown was on Wednesday released from Fort Warren for thirty days, on his parole to remain in Massachusetts. This temporary release was granted on the application of friends, in order that he might be able to attend to some necessary private business.

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN.—We regret to record this morning the death of one of our oldest and most respected merchants, Robert Lemmon, Esq. For many years Mr. Lemmon was engaged in mercantile pursuits in this city, and for a long period was the head of the well-known firm of R. Lemmon & Co. His urbanity and integrity won for him a wide circle of friends. He died at the ripe age of 79 years, his sickness having confined him almost entirely to the house for many months past.

ACCIDENT.—Mr. Oliver Conley, employed at the wheelwright shop of Mr. Charles Slack, near Bolton depot, had his right hand badly mangled on Wednesday afternoon by having it caught in a circular saw. His injury was dressed by Dr. Greentree and Prof. N. R. Smith.

RETURN OF TROOPS.—The six companies of Warren's Zouaves and the Seventeenth Massachusetts regiment, which went to the Eastern shore of Virginia some days ago, returned yesterday morning to their former quarters in this city.

JUDGES OF THE LATE ELECTION.—The law in relation to elections in Baltimore city requires that the Judges of Election shall appear before the Grand Jury of the Criminal Court, to report any misdemeanor which may have come under their observation on the day of election. Some of the Judges of the late election have failed to comply with the law in this respect, and if they should not appear to day they will be subject to a fine.

Amusements.

HOLLIDAY STREET THEATRE.—The beautiful and accomplished actress, Miss Lucille Western, announces her name for a benefit this evening, on which occasion she will present a new play of deep interest, written by the celebrated author, Tom Taylor, entitled the *Rebel's Daughter*, and Shakespeare's fine comedy of *Taming a Shrew*. The fairy beneficiare appearing in both pieces, supported by Mr. E. L. Tilton, and the entire talented company.

BALTIMORE MUSEUM.—To-night another new bill will be offered. Among the laughable acts are "the Railroad Smash-Up," "The Postboy" and "Scenes at a Daguerreotypist's." Go 2's in herbal lyrical tableaux will be presented for the last time. New songs, new dances, new burlesques—in fact, everything new this evening. On to-morrow afternoon there will be a gala gift entertainment, especially calculated for families, ladies and children. A number of costly presents will be given away on the occasion, when children under ten years of age will be admitted for ten cents.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

CITY CRIMINAL COURT—Judge Bond.

Archibald Stirling, Jr., State's Attorney, prosecuting:

James Corelin was declared to be a lunatic and a pauper.

Alexander Smith, colored, indicted for obtaining a sum of money and some clothing under false pretences. Verdict of guilty. Sentenced to be sold within the State for two years.

Edward Sampson, colored, indicted for the larceny of a bag of flour, the property of J. H. Lessig. Adjudged guilty. Sentenced to be sold within the State for 18 months.

Mary Tilman, colored, indicted, together with Margaret Nevins, colored, for the larceny of nine yards of calico, the property of Jacob Helfresh. Verdict of guilty. Sentenced to be sold within the State for 18 months.

Margaret Nevins, indicted for the same offence.—Verdict of guilty. Sentenced to be sold within the State for 18 months.

William Johnson, colored, indicted for the larceny of a pair of boots, the property of Charles Rash. Verdict of guilty. Sentenced to be sold within the State for 18 months.

George Waters, colored, indicted for the larceny of a hat. Verdict of guilty. Sentenced to be sold within the State for 18 months.

The court adjourned till this morning at ten o'clock.

The jury in the case of John Henry Torborg, indicted for selling liquor on Sunday, returned a sealed verdict of "not guilty."

U. S. CIRCUIT COURT—Judge Giles

United States *vs.* schooner Mary C. Crammer. Decree of condemnation and sale.

SUPERIOR COURT—Judge Martin.

Susan Webb *vs.* the Commercial Insurance Company. Before reported. Verdict for plaintiff for $1,250.

Mary Hanley *vs.* David Dalsheimer and John L. Bishop. Action to recover damages for trespass. Verdict for plaintiff. Damages $500.

CITY CIRCUIT COURT—Judge Krebs.

Ellenger, McCann and Denmead *vs.* Great Falls Iron Company and Malcolm and Brown, trustees of Howard. Bill to vacate a deed from Robert Howard to Great Falls Iron Company. Argument not concluded.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.
COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND.
DECEMBER TERM, 1861.

ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 4.—No. 150. Kemp & Buckey, use of L. G. Kemp, *vs* Larkin S. Cook, H. Ridgely, *et al.* Appeal from the Circuit Court for Frederick county. This case was argued by Joseph M. Palmer for the appellants, and by Oliver Miller for the appellees.

ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 5.

No. 151. Smith's executors *vs* W. P. Anderson and others. Appeal from the Equity side of the Circuit Court for Frederick county. This case was argued by Joseph M. Palmer for the appellants, and submitted, on written arguments, by William J. Ross, for the appellees.

No. 152. William Yingling *vs.* Christian Koblass, administrator. Appeal from the Circuit Court for Frederick county. This case was argued by Oliver Miller for the appellant, and by Joseph M. Palmer for the appellee.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.
TOWSONTOWN, Dec. 5.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY COURT—SALE OF REAL ESTATE—IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SHEPPARD ASYLUM, &c.—The following business was transacted in the Circuit Court for Baltimore county to-day:

The jury in the case of Thos. D. Cockey, of T., trustee, *vs.* the Northern Central Railway Company, in which $6,000 was claimed as damages for the burning of growing timber, rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs for $225.

State *vs.* Richard Hearn, indicted for assaulting, beating and tying Robert Feinour, alleged to have been committed in Howard county on the 8th of March, 1860. Tried before the court and adjudged "not guilty." Mr. Keech for the defence.

The case of the State *vs.* James Burnett, indicted for assault and battery on Charles Woollman, was *stetted* upon payment of costs.

The auditor's report in the equity case of Porogoy *vs.* Peregoy was affirmed, and the court, at an early hour, adjourned for the day.

The property belonging to Mr. Joshua Parlett, near this place, containing nine acres and improved with several small dwellings, has been purchased by Mr. Meyer, of Baltimore, for the sum of $3,000.

On Tuesday last Messrs. George and Jacob Wisner sold a farm of 145 acres, lying in the sixth election district of this county, and improved with a two-story dwelling, for $2,750. Adam Wisner, purchaser.

In addition to the fine gateways, avenues, &c., constructed by the trustees of the Sheppard Asylum on their farm, near this place, they have now in the course of erection, and nearly completed, a mammoth barn 300 feet in length, with angles at either end. The first story is built of stone, and the remainder of frame work. The structure presents an imposing appearance, and can be seen from this village.

The newly elected county commissioners have entered upon the discharge of their duties. They have appointed Nehemiah Price as night watchman at the court house, vice Geo. W. Charriton, removed.

Geo. W. Fisher, Esq., the newly elected county treasurer, has not yet taken possession of the books, papers, &c., appertaining to his office.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, December 4.—Mr. Chief Justice Taney stated that during the recess of the Court he received a letter from Hon. B. C. Howard, dated 13th of September, 1861, resigning his situation as reporter of this Court. He directed the clerk to file said letter, and gave notice that the vacancy would not be filled until the arrival of Mr. Justice Nelson.

On motion of Mr. Attorney General Bates, John R. Shepley, Esq., of Missouri, was admitted an attorney and counsellor of this Court.

On motion of Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Thomas Sunderland, of California, was admitted an attorney and counsellor of this Court.

On motion of Hon. Charles R. Train, Micah Dyer, Jr., Esq., of Massachusetts, was admitted an attorney and counsellor of this Court.

On motion of Clinton Rice, Esq., Edward Patteson, Esq., of New York, was admitted an attorney and counsellor of this Court.

No. 6 and 7 The United States, plaintiffs in error, *vs.* George W. Stewart and Charles Lee Baron. These causes were submitted to the consideration of the Court on the record and printed arguments of Mr. Attorney General Bates for the plaintiffs in error, and of Mr. Stewart and Mr. Dargan for the defendant in error.

No. 188. Charles N. Mackubin, appellant, *vs.* John A. Lockwood *et al.* Appeal from the District Court of the United States for Minnesota. The cause is a controversy in this case having been agreed and settled between the parties, it was, on motion of Mr. Gillet, ordered that the appeal be dismissed.

No. 32. John D. Hager, appellant, *vs.* John R. Thomson *et al.* On motion of Mr. J. P. Bradley, suggesting a diminution of the record, a *certiorari* was awarded.

THE "CUSTOM" AT DAHOMEY.—According to the last advice from Africa, another of those diabolical massacres, which are a stigma on civilization, was to take place at Dahomey.—The cannibal king was going to have another "custom" or custom." This sacrifice is large, another the new yam season, and the preparations were to have been of the most complete character. All the principal natives and traders at Lagos had received invitations to be present to witness the ceremony of cutting off the heads of about two thousand human beings. From this it would appear that the protest lately made against such acts of barbarism, by the British Government, through the late Mr. Consul Foote, has had no effect on the King of Dahomey; and the general opinion appears to be that, until "His Majesty" is disposed of by summary or other means, this reign of terror will not abate. The cultivation of the country around Dahomey down to the very seaboard was neglected in consequence of the observance of these cruelties. Hunting parties had been sent out to capture from neighboring tribes the unhappy victims for the sacrifice.

OFFICERS OF THE U. S. STEAMSHIP HARTFORD SENT TO FORT WARREN.—Last evening four of the Lieutenants of the U.S. steamer Hartford were arrested and will be taken to Fort Warren, by Lieutenant Forney, of the Marine Corps. The officers are arrested, we understand, to take the oath of allegiance to the United States. Three of them are natives of Virginia, and the fourth is a native of Georgia.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

A CHANCE FOR CONTRABANDS.—An advertisement appears in the Hamilton (C. W.) *Times* calling for one hundred "healthy negroes" to enter the service of the Australian Cotton Association, in New South Wales and Queensland. Passage paid and £21 ($84) per annum, with rations, are the inducements, and it is promised that the negroes will be "treated by the Australian Cotton Association precisely in the same manner that white servants are, and being alike free subjects of our enlightened government."

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF BALTIMORE, DEC. 5.

Arrived.

Steamer Louisiana, Cannon, Old Point Comfort, Va—M N Falls. Reports the steamer Illinois, from N York, to take troops to Port Royal, arr in the Roads late Wednesday morning.

Steamer Artisan, McCabe, from New York—to James A Shriver.

Steamer John S Shriver, Dennis, Philadelphia—Jas A Shriver.

Barge Union, Clark, from Havre de Grace—ice to W H Oler.

Cleared.

Steamer Louisiana, Pearson, Old Point Comfort, Va—M N Falls

Steamer Elizabeth, Colmary, New York—James A Shriver.

Steamer John S Shriver, Dennis, Philadelphia, Jas A Shriver.

Steamer Richard Willing, Claypole, Philadelphia—Jas A Shriver.

Ship John M Mayo, Closson, Belle Isle, France, for orders—Foard & Rogers.

Bark Paladin, Wilson, Montevideo and Buenos Ayres—C Morton Stewart.

Schr Mohawk, Staples, Ponce, PR—Stirling & Ahrens.

Schr Joseph Guest, Ralmer, New York—master.

Schr Vermillion, Avery, New York via Tangier—Rose & Lyon.

Schr J H Cator, Catlin, Fortress Monroe—M A Mitchell.

Schr J J Barrill, Dawes, Philadelphia—Wm Applegarth & Son.

Schr R C Stanard, Jr, Booze, Fortress Monroe—Wm Applegarth & Son.

Schr Wm John, Gallagher, Philadelphia—W Rhoads & Son.

Schr M B Carlisle, Ryder, Fortress Monroe—master.

Schr Lydia R Ogden, Fisher, Philadelphia.

Schr J W Wooster, Gibson, do

Schr Geo S Powell, Boggs, Accomac, Va.

Schr Father & Son, Johnson, do

Schr Mary Clement, Leatherbury, Somerset county.

Schr Gleaner, Cantwell, do.

Schr Pilot, Perry, do.

Schr Independence, Rollis, do.

Schr Mary Ellen, Selley, Newtown.

Schr J & M & A J Foxwell, Cullison, St Marys.

Schr Complete, Kennedy, Vienna.

Schr Mary Alice, Twiford, Vienna

Schr Sarah Jane, Adams, Somerset Co

Sailed.

Schr Mohawk, Staples, Ponce, PR.

Brig Muscovado, (dr) Butler, Demerara, in tow of the Hector.

Arrivals from Baltimore

Brig Romance, Duncan, Aspinwall, 18th ult

Schr Jennie Morton, Green, Aspinwall, 24th ult.

Schr Cotasset, Tobey, Wareham 27th ult.

Schr J Jefferson, Harding, Philadelphia, 4th inst.

Schr E C Knight, Whitlow, Philadelphia, 4th inst.

Schr Maryland, Knight, Philadelphia, 3d inst.

Schr Kate Kallahan, Kallahan, Philadelphia, 3d inst.

Schr Mercy Taylor, Nickerson, Boston, 2d inst.

Clearances to Baltimore

Barge Artizan, Chase, New York, 3d inst.

Schr J G Wright, Pearce, New York, 4th.

Schr Alex Cooper, Bodine, New York, 3d.

Schr B F Stockton, VanCleaf, New York, 3d.

Schr Pathaway, Crawford, Boston, 3d.

Schr Gen Taylor, Hunter, Philadelphia, 3d.

Schr Kate Kallahan, Kallahan, Philadelphia, 3d.

Schr Bengal, Pilsbury, New York, 3d.

Memoranda.

In Hampton Roads, Br brig H Douggles, Teven, from Havana—box sugar to F W Brune & Son.

Bark Hugh Birckhead, Bennett, was disch at Palta, 7th ult, to sail for Guayaquil in a few days.

Ship Ellen Stewart, Coffin, from New York, arrived at Philadelphia, 2d inst.

Eastern Ports.

NEW YORK, December 4.—Arr ships Atlantic, Liverpool; E F Max, London; Zembest, Antwerp; bark Jubilaum, Bremen; brigs Anna, Savannah; Hildesdale, Havana; schr Templeton, do.——Cld ships Lizzie Homan and Palm Flush, Liverpool; Gov Langdon, do, J Baker, do; New Hampshire, do; Dublin, do; bark Queen of Sheca, Cord.

PHILADELPHIA, December 4—Arr brig Delhi, Havana; schrs Lotus, Old Point; H Blackman, Fortress Monroe.

BOSTON, December 5.—Arr brig J M Sawyer, Matanzas.

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W. H. GROSS,
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SHINGLES, LATHS AND LUMBER.
We have on hand a large assortment of LUMBER that we are selling at the lowest cash prices. Customers will please apply at the yard 132 LIGHT STREET WHARF, or at the corner of KUTAW AND GERMAN STREETS.
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IMPORTERS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF IRON and STEEL, have constantly on hand a complete assortment of
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This celebrated Wine is highly sparkling, perfectly pure and of a rich fruity taste, unsurpassed in quality by any Wine in the American market.
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20 cases Scris' and Boys' TRAVELLING SHAW
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The subscribers have a large quantity of LAND in Virginia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Illinois, which he will cell cheap. Show prices for city property.
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Best fertilizer for corn and potatoes can be made by using this fertilizer.
As a top dressing for grass or grain, we believe it superior to stable manure. Try it and respect farmers to test it as a fertilizer, based on other measures.
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FRENCH VINEGAR Triple Strong, for Pickling and table use, in pints, half pints and demijohns, for sale in quantities to suit purchasers, by
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s12-tf Sole Agents for Lord Ward's Worcestershire Sauce.

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