DAILY CLIPPER.

WM. WALES.....Publisher.

THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 1864.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The following exhibit of our regular rates will be found convenient for reference:

As a rule of service:

1 Square	1 Time	$ 1
"	2 Times	1.75
"	3 "	2.50
"	1 Week	4.00
"	1 Month	12.00
"	2 Months	20.00
"	6 "	CONTAINS SIX LINES OF
"	1 "	ONE SQ.

SPACE.

[Reported for the Baltimore Clipper.]

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

38th Congress—2d Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1864.

SENATE.—Mr. Lane, of Indiana, introduced a bill authorizing the holding of a special session of the United States District Court of Indiana and for other purposes. The time named for the special term is the third Tuesday in December, 1864, and the Judge is authorized to order a special term at any time hereafter he may deem necessary.

Mr. Morrill introduced a bill to amend the act incorporating the Metropolitan Railroad Company of this city. The bill amends section 17 of that act so as to extend the time for the completion of the said railroad to two years from and after the passage of this act. It also repeals all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act. The bill was read a first and second time and laid on the table.

The President pro. tem. presented a communication from Michael Hahn, Governor of Louisiana, transmitting credentials, and the proceedings of the General Assembly of Louisiana, in the election on the 10th of October last of Hon. Charles Smith and Hon. King Cutler, as Senators from that State, the former in place of J. P. Benjamin, for the term which will expire on the 4th of March, 1865, and the latter in place of John Slidell, for the term which expires on the 4th of March, 1867; also, a copy of the subsequent resolution authorizing the Government to deliver to the Senators their credentials.

Mr. Wade presented a remonstrance against the admission of these Senators, numerously signed, as he said, by citizens of Louisiana.

After citing in detail the history of the secession movements in the State in 1861, the Convention endorsing the previous acts of the then Governor Moore, in raising the U. S. forts, &c., by a vote of 119 to 6, and the passage of the ordinance of secession by a vote of 112 to 17—the ratification of the constitution of the so called Confederate States, and the taking of the oath to support it by all the State officers of Louisiana, the memorialists say: "Louisiana was then politically and morally, in fact, though not in law, out of the Union," and there was no office under the State government that could be recognized by the United States. Under the subsequent act of Congress and proclamation of the President, the State was declared in a state of insurrection, and so remains except in certain portions subdued and held by the national army, and since then the rules and laws of war have governed there, that portion within the Union lines being under martial law.

They hold, therefore, that all the elections held in Louisiana under order of the Major General Commanding in the Department, commencing in January, 1864, were without authority of law. The first was for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and five Executive officers, without a judiciary or Legislature, which the General Commanding declared to be the State government, though the election was held in only a portion of the Parishes and by a portion of the population. Mr. Hahn returned as Governor at that election, receiving an informal appointment afterwards from the President as Military Governor. The second was on the 11th of March, 1864, for delegates to a convention to revise and amend the Constitution of the State, which was held in less than one half of the Parishes and by less than one half the population, which convention met and framed a Constitution which was submitted to the popular vote and proclaimed as adopted. But all this being under military orders, merely it is held that the subsequent election of Congressman under that Constitution, as well as members of a Legislature, is invalid, and in addition it is charged that the elections were entirely under military control, and that the division of the State into five Congressional districts by the convention is in violation of the Constitution of the United States.

The Legislature is declared an unlawful body, the election by it of two United States senators therefore invalid, and it is declared also that the members conferred on themselves the power to choose Presidential electors. In the election there was no enrollment of voters prescribed. The memorialists, therefore, protest generally against all the acts of the Legislature, and they further pray that the act passed at the last session of Congress, and which was retained by the President, to guarantee republican government to insurrectionary States may become a law.

Mr. Powell submitted a resolution that the Secretary of War be directed, if not incompatible with the public interest, to submit to the Senate the report and evidence taken by a military commission, of which Brig. Gen. Speed S. Fry was president, appointed to investigate the conduct of Brig. Gen. Palfrey of the United States army, in and about Paducah, Kentucky.

Mr. Wilson objected, and the resolution lies over, under the rule.

Mr. Morgan presented what, he said, purported to be the credentials of Senators from Louisiana, (the same as laid before the body the President pro tem. He said he did so without reference to the questions that may be involved, and with the view of their reference to the judiciary committee.

Mr. Trumbull understood that the papers in this Louisiana case were voluminous, and as it was not intended to take action at this time, he would suggest that they be printed.

Mr. Wade was also in favor of printing, as the papers contained arguments on the subject involved.

On his motion, the papers, including the remonstrance, were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Foster, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—Mr. Blaine, of Maine, moved to reconsider the vote by which, yesterday, the bills introduced by Mr. Stevens, of Pa., were referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, viz: to prohibit the exportation of gold and silver coin, and to prevent gold and silver coin and bullion from being paid or accepted for a greater value than their real current value, and for preventing any note or bill issued by the United States from being received for a smaller sum than is therein specified.

Mr. Blaine said that these bills had already produced much mischief, yesterday largely putting up the price of gold.

Mr. Cox thought that the President had played the bull in the message.

Mr. Stevens defended the policy which he proposed in these bills, saying the subject had occupied the attention of the wisest statesmen of Europe for centuries.

Mr. Stevens moved to lay Mr. Blaine's motion on the table, but this was disagreed to—yeas 51, nays 68.

The vote by which the bill was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means was reconsidered.

Mr. Stevens moved to postpone it for ten days.

Mr. Blaine moved that it be laid upon the table. This was agreed to—yeas 73, nays 55.

Various bills were introduced and referred, but none of particular or striking public importance, and the House at 1¼ o'clock adjourned.

☞ During the month of November, 404 boats have cleared from Cumberland, Md., loaded with 43,980 04 tons of coal for Eastern markets, producing a revenue for the Canal Company of $41,565 80. For the entire season 2,745 boats have been mustered, conveying 245 476 08 tons of coal to Georgetown.

☞ It is related of Dr. Clarke that when in one of his leisure hours he was bending himself with a few friends in the most playful and frolicsome manner, he observed Hesselius approaching; upon which he suddenly stopped, "My boys," said he, "let us be grave, here comes a fool."

☞ Iceland is for sale. The purchaser may erect it into a monarchy, a republic or a despotism if he chooses. There are 64 000 inhabitants in it, who don't care whether they have a king or companion in the burger. He may style himself Emperor of Iceland.

☞ A locomotive with steam up was left standing on a turn table at Newport a few nights ago, when by some accident the machinery was set in motion, and the engine tore off swiftly into a neighboring field.

☞ A New Orleans actress was recently seriously injured by leaping from one proscenium to another in the play—a distance of fifteen feet.

☞ Gen. Wayne who commands a body of rebels in Georgia, is a son of Judge Wayne of the Supreme Court.

☞ Miss Charlotte Thompson commenced an engagement at the St. Louis Theatre last evening.

☞ The rebel army has just been supplied with salt and soap, but even salt cannot save it.

☞ The Diet of the little Duchy of Lauenberg have passed a resolution in favor of annexation to Prussia.

☞ Of wool, the New York imports for the month of November last, were 2,488,063 pounds.

☞ Nine men over 80 years of age voted for Lincoln, in Brattleboro, Vt.

LOCAL NEWS.

Convention of the Sunday School Teachers.—The body reassembled yesterday morning. The business of the morning was opened with religious exercises, after which the regular business of the Convention was proceeded with.

The committee on business reported that a meeting of Sunday School Teachers be held next Sunday morning in advance of the regular meeting of the Sabbath schools, at which subject being to learn the Superintendent's, the Schools were connected with and the Bible was had.

Whereupon, it was customary in his School to give out a hymn for the scholars to commit to memory by the next Sabbath. The lesson so given out, generally consisted of seven verses, making one verse per day, to be committed to memory. At the regular opening hour on Sabbath morning, a hymn was sung, followed by the reading of a portion of the Scriptures, explaining its meaning to the scholars; this is followed by prayer. The lesson are next heard, which occupy the attention of the scholars until half-past ten o'clock, when the studies are laid aside and the notice for next Sabbath announced. The morning is then closed with singing, the children frequently suggesting the name of the hymn they desire to sing, and so desire, an opportunity is presented to them to address the scholars.

B. F. Nalle, of the Exeter Street Church of this city, stated that the school under his superintendence was in a flourishing condition. The exercises are begun with singing and reading in the Scriptures; after prayer another hymn is sung, when the lessons of the scholars (which are given out on the previous Sunday) are heard. Every scholar recites ten verses. The Bible Class teachers assemble on every Wednesday afternoon, and prepare their lessons for the following Sunday. Mr. Nalle stated that during the past two months there has been twenty-five conversions of scholars belonging to his school.

B. C. Boogher, of the M. E. Church of Frederick, presented a verbal statement of the organization of a mission school in Frederick. It is now composed of ninety scholars and fifteen teachers. The exercises are similar to those stated above.

Dr. McOron, pastor of the Lutheran Church on Lexington street, in the absence of the Superintendent of his Sunday School, gave to the Convention the manner in which the exercises are conducted. The school is opened with singing and prayer, the children taking part in the prayer. He frequently preaches to the children, announcing his text, and then calling upon the children to state in what portion of the Bible it will be found—a favorable answer is returned, when the text is divided, and the children are requested to state what certain passages treat upon, and so on until the exercises are closed.

On the following Sabbath, he calls upon the children for their recollection of the sermon. The Rev. gentleman stated that a more attentive congregation than his, composed of children, cannot on any Sabbath be found in Baltimore. His sermons are selected with the view to meet the understanding of the children, and pains taken that they fully understand the explanations of their instructor. A large number of the scholars attend prayer meetings every Sunday morning, previous to the opening of the Sunday School. Cards, bearing the words, "I am Early" and "I am Late," are conspicuously placed in the school room, so that scholars may see that they are punctual or dilatory in attending school.

Other gentlemen expressed their views upon the manner in which they conducted the exercises of the schools, affording to the members of the Convention a fund of valuable informa-

Terrible Railroad Accident—Two Men Killed and Several Wounded.—A terrible accident occurred on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad a short distance east of Martinsburg, Va. The mail train which quitted Martinsburg for this city, at half-past 4 o'clock, ran off the track when passing the switch at Pillar Bridge, in consequences of the switch being disarranged. The engine, tender and baggage car passed over the switch in safety, but the first passenger car, filled with soldiers and prisoners, was upset and threw down an embankment. One of the soldiers was caught beneath the car and crushed in such a manner that he died in about an hour after being injured. Four other soldiers were badly cut and bruised. They were removed to the hospital at Martinsburg.

The debris was removed from the track as speedily as possible, and a telegraphic dispatch sent from Martinsburg to Duffield station, distant about six miles from Harper's Ferry, notifying Conductor James Walters, of the mail train westward bound, of the accident, and requesting him to "stay out" for fifty minutes. It is supposed that Walters understood the dispatch to read thirty instead of fifty minutes, and that he could reach the turn-out at Pillar Bridge in time to pass the other train. When near the point stated the engineer exhibited with a fearful crash, the colliding the engines, tenders and baggage cars of both trains, and the smoking car attached to the train proceeding westward. On the train from the west there were no passenger injured, excepting a few who received slight cuts and bruises, from being thrown against the seats of the cars; the engineer also, though he was badly bruised and the fireman had his left arm broken. On the train going West, the baggage and smoking cars were forced into each other, rendering them a complete wreck.

Conductor Walters was in the smoking car, and Wm. Hagan, baggage master, in his car; both men were instantly killed. Erastus Darby, the engineer, residing in Martinsburg, has his collar bone broken. The fireman escaped unhurt, notwithstanding he remained at the brakes until the cars collided. Upon removing Walters from the wreck of the smoking car, his right leg, which had been crushed in a shocking manner, fell from his body. Hagan was found lying upon the trunk of his car, shockingly mangled. Two soldiers who were seated in the smoking car, were badly injured, one of them having his collar-bone, and the other his right arm, broken. A number of civilians and soldiers, who were seated in the other cars, were more or less bruised.

The bodies of Walters and Hagan were brought to this city yesterday and removed to the homes of their grief stricken families. Walters resided No. 60 South Poppleton street, and leaves a wife and six children. He had been in the employ of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company for the past 23 years, and was always looked upon as one of the most careful employees in the service of the Company. He was extensively known in this city and by the travelling community and greatly beloved. Hagan resided No. 19 South Fremont street, and had been in the service of the Company for a long period. He was a careful, attentive and reliable employee, and highly esteemed by those who knew him. He leaves a wife and several children.

The Case of Hamilton Easter & Co.—The case of Hamilton Easter & Co., Baltimore merchants, charged with selling goods to blockade runners to be taken into the rebel lines, was continued this morning before the Military Commission on F street north, between 13th and 14th streets.

The evidence on the part of the defence has all been given in, and the rebutting testimony, concerning the character of Pardon Worseley, a witness on the part of the government, was taken this morning.

The Judge Advocate, Col. John A. Foster, read to the court the testimony of John W. Pickett and Seth Rich, whose depositions had been taken in Boston on the 22d of November last, concerning the character of Pardon Worseley, which states that they had known him some twelve or fifteen years, and that his character was good, they asserting that they would believe him on oath.

Daniel Holliday, of Baltimore, was sworn, and, upon being questioned by the Judge Advocate, stated that he had known the Easter firm during the last twenty years, and also stated that they bore, in Baltimore, a character of integrity; that their business character was good; he knew of no disloyal act of the firm through his own personal knowledge.

Other testimony was received on character of defendants, which did not differ materially from the above, when closed the taking of testimony on both sides, and the case was postponed until next Wednesday, when a summing up of both sides will be rendered.—*Wash Star.*

Widening of Holliday Street.—The work of demolishing the houses on both sides of the proposed widening of Holliday street, will be commenced on Monday morning next. Yesterday the building on the southwest corner of Holliday and Fayette streets, was sold by Adreon & Co., auctioneers, for the sum of $415. The work of widening the street will be prosecuted with vigor.

Draft To-day.—A draft for the deficiencies in the Seventh and Twelfth Districts of Baltimore county, will be had this morning at the office of Captain Cathcart, on Baltimore street, opposite East. The number to be drafted will be small, probably not more than 250—being required to fill the quotas of both districts.

Charged With Stealing.—Isabella Hagar and Jessie Cooper, colored, were arrested yesterday, charged with stealing a clock, case, the property of Maggie Hogan, residing No. 69 North Central avenue. Justice Hiss committed the accused to jail for a further hearing.

Discharged.—F. A. Carr, arrested August 27th, on the charge of being disloyal, and ordered to be confined in the city jail for 20 days, was released from that well regulated institution yesterday.

AMUSEMENTS.

Holliday Street Theatre.—Two patriotic drama of the Maid of the War Path, was presented at the Holliday Street Theatre last night, to a splendid audience, the Theatre being well filled, despite the disagreeable condition of the sidewalks. The drama is replete with startling and exciting incidents, and drew from the audience tremendous bursts of applause. The farce of It Takes Two to Make a Quarrel, was capitally rendered by Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, and elicited shouts of laughter. The same bill will be repeated to-night.

Front Street Theatre.—Mr. Buchanan and his talented daughter are meeting with great success at the Front Street Theatre. Last night they appeared in the play of the Robbers, and were enthusiastically applauded. To night the exciting drama of Waiting for the Verdict will be presented. To-morrow night Miss Buchanan will take a benefit.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Criminal Court.—Judge Lead.—John L. Thomas, Esq., State's Attorney, prosecuting. The following business occupied the attention of this Court yesterday:

Ernest Frank, charged with keeping a disorderly house at Lafayette Square; case stetted. Joseph Keyser and ——— Ettsee, both charged with larceny—case continued until next term. Frederick Suer, charged with keeping a disorderly house on Forest Fremont and Diver streets, not guilty. Chas. Pleasing, cruelty to a horse, fined $25 and costs. John Ursilly, Jas. Workington and John Hughes, charged with attempting to kill Zechariah Andrews, held sub curia. Sarah Johnson, colored, indicted upon charges of beating Sarah Mayer, keeping a gambling house, bawdy house, and selling liquor on Sunday; not guilty. George W. Strans, selling liquor on Sunday to Joseph Hicks, case postponed. Wm. A. Vorghe, keeping a disorderly house, not guilty. Richard Garrett, charged with larceny, not guilty.

The following parties were sentenced: Sardinia Jones, charged with larceny, three indictments, 18 months in the Penitentiary. Amelia Griffin, same charge, one year in jail. Ambrose, stealing wine and other articles the property of the New York Transportation Company, three years in the Penitentiary.—John Penley, an old thief, found guilty of larceny, five years in the Penitentiary.—Hannah O. Key, found guilty of petit larceny, six months in jail. Hannah Bailey, found guilty of larceny, one year in the Penitentiary.

Orphans' Court.—Before the Hon. Judges Audoun, Supplee and Hoffman. The following business occupied the attention of this Court yesterday:

Letters of Administration were granted on the estate of Thomas Porter to Robert Porter, and on the estate of Leonard Fowler to Thomas J. Fowler.

The will of John C. Ivy was admitted to probate.

United States District Court.—Before the Hon. Judge Giles. The following business occupied the attention of this Court yesterday:

The United States vs. the steamer Elmira. Proclamation having been made, no parties appearing, judgment of condemnation by default and sale ordered.

Court of Common Pleas.—Before Hon. John S. Saug. The following business occupied the attention of this court yesterday:

John O. Howes vs. Joseph Walker—removed case from Baltimore county. Action against former Sheriff of Baltimore county for neglecting to serve an execution on trial.

Superior Court.—Before Hon. Judge Martin. The following business occupied the attention of this Court yesterday:

Dalrymple vs. The Baltimore Marine Insurance Company. Before reported. Not concluded.

[*Reported for the Baltimore Clipper.*]

TOWSONTOWN, Dec. 7, 1864.

Circuit Court for Baltimore County.—Before Hon. Richard Grason, Judge. John T. Ensor, Esq., prosecuting attorney for the State.

State vs. Romulus R. Griffeth, indicted for a nuisance. Reported yesterday. The examination of witnesses and the arguing of this case occupied the attention of the Court all day. Submitted to the Jury. R. J. Gittings, Esq., for defence.

The following cases on the trial docket have been continued:

Wm. Harmmiller vs. Tobias Williams; Jared Parkhurst, Jr., vs. John S. West; David and James Stewart vs. Hannah McCreery, administratrix of James McCreery; Henry Knoll vs. Lewis Turner; Benjamin F. Anderson vs. Mathew and Luther M. Birmingham; Hugh Bolton and others vs. Geo. M. Hiss; George Ellicott vs. Thomas Wilson; Samuel Chancellor, Trustee of D. H. Gordon vs. Wm. W. Dobbarge; Geo. T. Jenkins vs. Thomas Saunderson; W. A. Meale vs. Mathias Benzinger; John Chatterton vs. Alex. Moore and R. M. Chatterton. K.

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Clipper.]

TOWSONTOWN, Dec. 7, 1864.

A meeting was held here yesterday by a number of the magistrates and constables of Baltimore county, (pursuant to public notice,) for the purpose of requesting the Legislature to advance the fees of said officers.

The meeting was organized by calling Edward S. Freeland, Esq., to the chair, and appointing Mr. Adam H. Kreet, secretary, when a memorial was drawn up directed to the Legislature, requesting that honorable body to raise the fees of said officers to enable the amount they now are, said memorial being signed by a large number of the magistrates and constables of this country, which memorial will be handed in to the Legislature at the assembling of that body.

Quite a successful religious meeting has been in progress for the past few weeks at the Epsom Chapel, in this place, under the pastoral care of Rev. John S. Deems. Quite a number of persons have been converted and added to the Church. W. B. K.

THE BIG TREES OF CALIFORNIA.

I found them situated in a slight depression between two ranges of hills, but 2,500 feet above the plains below. Like Niagara, the first view is liable to disappoint you. The trees do not seem as large or as tall as you would expect from the descriptions you have read. But the actual measurement corrects your first impression. Though I do not think the trees are as much taller than their humbler neighbors as they are larger. For when they rise above the level of the treetops they are exposed to the full force of mountain storms. Some of the trunks at the base are from 25 to 30 feet in diameter, and most of the others send out strong lateral branches instead of maintaining the gradual and tapering symmetry of the lower portions of the trunk. Nevertheless these lofty monarchs of the forest do stand considerably above the altitude of the tallest pines, and one gets his only adequate impression of their length by measuring those that have fallen. So also of their size.

Standing inside, ten rods from the base of the "Father of the Forest," a hollow and fallen tree, I could not reach to the top of it; and still beyond that was a knot-hole out of which visitors ascend by a step ladder. "The horseback ride," which was through the hollow trunk of another fallen tree, is now obstructed by the breaking in of the trunk at one point by the falling across it, yet I walked through the hollow and came out about 12 rods from the base. Nine full sized men have stood abreast, cross-wise, on the trunk of the "Hercules." Standing beside one fallen tree with a stick seven feet long, I could not reach to the top by four feet, and yet the bark, which is from eleven to twenty-eight inches thick, had been peeled off from the tree.

The names of the trees are a curious medley, "Hercules," "Sir John Franklin," and "General Scott," are near neighbors. "The Old Dominion," I noticed, was not very straight, shaky at the top, and badly burnt about the roots; while the "Empire State" was straight and healthy and green to the topmost twig! "The Sisters," "The Graces," and "The Trinity," are groups, and look as if they might have been, at first, shoots from the roots of some fallen ancestor. "The Siamese Twins" are really one tree, very large for twenty feet from the ground, then separating into two stalwart and equal branches.

I found about twenty-five trees fallen, and in all stages of decay as if they had been brought down by natural causes through the progress of the last two hundred years. One fell in 1850 and the last in 1862. Twelve of the fallen trees are of the largest size, some of them larger than any that are now standing.

I think every visitor ought to enter his protest against two acts of vandalism which have been perpetrated on these wonders of the forest. The largest tree standing when they were discovered, has been bored down—bored I say, for it was too large to be cut; and five men were twenty-five days boring through and through the hole of this tree with pump augurs before it fell. On the fallen trunk, cut away on the top, was a ten-pin alley, and the stump, seven feet above the ground, is from twenty five to twenty-seven feet across. On this stump a house is built.

The "Mother of the Forest" has been stripped of her covering to the height of 116 feet, that some one might exhibit it at the base at twenty-five cents a sight. But though this was done seven years ago, so tenacious is she of life that one green limb yet remains among her many branches.

Many speculations have been indulged as to the age of these trees. Some have thought that they antedate the flood. I also venture an estimate. We found, counting the circles in the grain from the heart of the tree bored down, that it took thirty-six years to make a foot in diameter. Estimating the diameter at twenty-five feet would make the tree but 900 years old. We counted again, not exactly at the heart, but sixty feet from the stump, and the estimate was forty-eight years to the foot, which would make the tree but 1200 years old. I conclude, that none of these trees standing or fallen are over 1500 years old. But even then how old they are! Green and firm, majestic and beautiful they stand before you, many of them, without a symptom of decay, and yet 1200 or 1500 years old! What changes have occurred, what empires have risen and fallen since they sprung from the bosom of the mother earth! Had they tongues what tales they could tell!—*Rev. Dr. Kendall in N. Y. Evangelist.*

☞ The last report of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture unfolds the cause of the great emigration to the United States. The Secretary of the Board collected some facts during a recent visit to Europe, which, perhaps, will satisfy many. He says that thirty seven cents per day is the highest sum paid, the laborer boarding himself, in England or Ireland. In most parts of Ireland the laborer gets but twenty five cents per day, and with this sum he must board and lodge himself; and even with it he is not able to procure labor on full time in Kilkenny, the average price is about thirty cents per day; the laborer finding himself. In Bar, on the Rhine, it is about twenty cents per day. At the large Agricultural Institute at Goldsberg, near Weimar, it is twenty four cents per day. In and around Heidelburg, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, it is from thirty to thirty-five cents. In and around Cassel thirty seven cents per day. At the Agricultural College at Weithenstepen, females are paid eighteen cents per day, finding themselves. These prices are for the season of harvest, when prices are generally higher than at other seasons of the year.

☞ A correspondent writes as follows: "It may interest the public to know that the admirable life of Washington, written for and published by the American Sunday School Union, and warmly commended by the late Chief Justice Marshall, Mr. Justice Washington, Col. Richard Varick, and others, and is now passing through a third edition in modern Greek, and is sanctioned by the Government for use in the public schools of Greece."

☞ A portion of our army in Alabama voted for President under rebel fire. At Taylor's Springs, Alabama, the cavalry under Gen Hatch were struggling to prevent an advance of Hood and as the regiments voted for Lincoln and Johnson, an occasional shell hissed over the ballot box, and the patter of bullets came up from the swamp. The brave Union boys took turns in voting and fighting.

☞ The Washington (Ohio) Herald says that Mrs. W. B. Bloomer, while visiting the hub and handle factory in that place, was caught in the machinery and carried round by a shaft which makes one hundred and seventy revolutions a minute, and is but eighteen inches from the floor. She was literally dashed to pieces.

☞ The first excursion train on the Union Pacific railroad started out from Wyandott, Kansas, the eastern terminus of the line, last Monday, and ran through to Lawrence.

☞ Some pleasures, like the horizon or the rainbow, recede perpetually as we advance towards them; others, like butterflies, are crushed by being caught.

☞ Another explosion of gunpowder has taken place in England—this time in one of the mills of Messrs Hall, at Faversham. Two men were killed, and much damage done to property.

☞ Small pox is said to be very prevalent in Brooklyn, N. Y., the type of the disease being unusually malignant. Several deaths have taken place.

☞ Punch says a vulgar error is that more attention can be paid to a sermon when the eyes are shut.

The Footsteps of Decay.

[The following is a translation from an ancient Spanish Poem, which, says the Edinburgh Review, is surpassed by nothing, with which we are acquainted in the Spanish language, except the "Ode of Louis de Leon."]

Oh! let the soul its slumbers break—
Arouse its senses and awake,
To see how fast mortal life, in glories glides away,
And the stern footsteps of decay
Come stealing on
And while we view the rolling tide,
Down which our flowing minutes glide
Away as fast,
Let us the present hour employ,
And deem each future dream a joy
Already past.

Let no vain hope deceive the mind—
No happier let us hope to find
To-morrow than to-day.
Our golden dreams of yore were bright,
Like the present shall delight—
Like them decay.

Our lives like hasting streams must be,
That into one capacious sea
Are doomed to fall—
The sea of death, whose waves roll on
O'er king and kingdom, crown and throne,
And swallow all.

Alike the river's lordly tide,
Alike the humble rivulets glide
To that and wave;
Death levels poverty and pride,
And rich and poor sleep side by side
Within the grave.

Our birth is but a starting place;
Life is the running of the race,
And death the goal;
There all our glittering toys are brought—
The path alone is all unsought,
Is found of all.

See, then, how poor and little worth
Are all these glittering toys of earth
That lure us here!
Dream of a shade, that death must break,
Ahs! before it bids us wake,
We disappear.

Long are the damp of earth can blight,
The cheek's pure glow of red and white
Has passed away.
Youth smiled and age and life Heavenly fate—
Age came and laid his finger there,
And where are they?

Where is the strength that spurned decay,
The step that revelled in light and gay,
The heart's blithe tone?
The strength is gone, the step is slow,
And joy grows wearisome and woe!
When age comes on!

DREADFUL.—In speaking of preparation for the comfort of Congress, the Richmond Examiner says: "It was intended to recarpet the legislative hall throughout, but the steamer in which the fine Brussels was shipped from Europe fell into the hands of the blockaders off Wilmington. So the capitol will have to go without its new dress this season." Certainly this is a dreadful condition of affairs. Just think of it! Our Congressmen obliged to hold another session in warm, comfortable rooms on bare floors, without a Brussels carpet, while our soldiers luxuriate out of doors in the rain, sleet and snow—drenched to the skin and half frozen by the keen chilly winter blast. How our Congressmen must suffer! Poor things!

Some of our cotemporaries are so uncharitable as to say that the gold spent for the lost carpets could have been spent for better purposes; that it might have purchased many a poor soldier the wherewithal to keep him warm. Our exchanges should recollect that the order of things has been changed since this war has commenced; and that Congress, instead of legislating for the people, has been legislating for themselves and other officials—instead of adopting measures to preserve and defend civil liberty, pass their time in devising schemes to deprive the people of what few liberties they have left. High times, these.

HOW THE QUEEN'S SPEECH IS WRITTEN.—In a late speech by Mr. Osborn, member of the British Parliament, on public affairs, he thus described the manner in which the Queen's speech was composed:

I dare say there may be some in this room who may innocently suppose that what is called the "Queen's Speech" is actually the speech of the Queen. [A laugh.] Well, her Majesty has nothing to do with it; and in regard to this speech, which is called the Queen's, and which is neither the Queen's English nor the people's grammar—[laughter]—her Majesty is, in fact, as little consulted for the opinions as Lindley Murray is for the rules of grammar.

Those Queen's speeches are nothing more than magniloquent misrepresentations of the Queen's English, and containing the most sonorous periods of what is known as Cabinet English. [Laughter.] These speeches are made, I may tell you, in this manner: One puts forward one sentence and another man another, and when they are all got together it is then put to the vote, and one unfortunate being has to put this conglomerate English together and make what he can out of it.—(Loud laughter.)

CURIOSITIES OF THE EARTH.—In digging at the city of Modena in Italy, and about four miles around it, when the workmen arrive at the depth of sixty feet they come to a bed of chalk, which they bore with an augur five feet deep. They then withdraw from the pit before the augur is removed, and upon its extraction the water bursts up through the aperature with great violence and quickly fills this new made well, which continues full, and is affected by neither rains nor droughts. But that which is most remarkable is, that at the depth of fourteen feet are found the remains of an ancient city—paved streets, houses, floors and different pieces of mosaic. Underneath is a soft earth, made up chiefly of vegetable matter, and at twenty-six feet deep large trees entire, such as walnut trees, with walnuts still on the stem, and the leaves and branches in a perfect state of preservation. At twenty-eight feet deep a soft chalk is found, mixed with a vast quantity of shells, and this is eleven feet thick. Under it vegetables are found again, with leaves and branches of trees as before.

☞ Accounts can be filed in the Department at Washington show the singular fact that, since the rebellion began, forty thousand more cattle and twice as many hides have received assistance from the Government.

☞ The Troy, N. Y. Whig says that so many oil wells are now being bored in various localities in Lansingburg, that it may be said that the speculation is being run into the ground.

☞ New Mexico is now threatened with famine. Cause—drought and the support of 10,000 Navajo Indians. Arizona is said to bear a similar misfortune.

☞ The wealthy "secesh" in Missouri intend to colonize Nicaragua.

MINIATURE ALMANAC FOR 1864.

DECEMBER.	Sun rises.	Sun sets.	Moon's Phases.
5-Monday....	7 21	4 39	
6-Tuesday...	7 21	4 39	
7-Wednesday	7 22	4 38	
8-Thursday..	7 22	4 38	
9-Friday....	7 23	4 37	
10-Saturday..	7 23	4 37	
11-Sunday....	7 23	4 37	

DECEMBER.	D.	H.	M.
New	23	4	23 a
First qr	6	2	43m
Full	13	2	17m
Last qr	21	12	4m

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

MONEY AND STOCKS

WEDNESDAY, December 7, 1864.

Transactions in gold at the Board of Brokers were heavy, some $60 000 changing hands at 238@241—an advance of 10 per cent. The market showed weakness later in the day, and sales were reported at 238@239. Five-Twenties improved 1¾ per cent., sales being made at 109¾. Baltimore City 6's brought $101; Northern Central Railroad 6s Bonds $101; the stock of the road $58. Baltimore and Ohio 6s Bonds $108, and the stock $111@$110, the whole list closing steady. Of the Mining shares Laurel Canal, the transactions in which were unusually heavy yesterday, declined 25 cents, and left off weak.

SALE AT THE BALTIMORE STOCK BOARD.

Furnished by Leonard J. Tormey, Stock and Bill Broker, No. 22 South Street.

DECEMBER 7, 1864.

$1,225	American Gold	(regular)	238¾
2,500	do	do	(large) b5	238¾
2 500	do	do	(large) s10	239¾
1 000	do	do	(large) b10	238¾
1 000	do	do	(large) s10	239
2,000	do	do	(large) b5	238¾
500	do	do	(large) s5	239¾
2,000	do	do	(large) b15	238¾
2,000	do	do	(large) b30	240
750	do	do	(large)	240
2 000	do	do	D. E	240
1 000	U. S. 5-20's			109¾
	30 shares Bank of Baltimore			109
	22 shares Bk. Mechanics' Bk			113
2,400	shares City Stocks, '75			103
	50 shares Nor. Cen. RR			56
	20 shares N. Fire Insurance Co			15
	100 shares Bare Hill Co. b30			2.10
1,000	shares Va. Coal & Iron Co b30			4.00
500	do	do	do	4.00
1,000	do	do	do	4.05
5,000	Balt. & Ohio R. R. 6's '85			109¾
1,000	N. C. R. W. 6's '85			109¾

SECOND BOARD.

2,000	American Gold, (large) s10		239¾
2,500	do	do (large)	239¾
600	do	do (large)	239¾
2,000	do	do (large) s5	240¾
1,000	do	do (large)	240¾
3,400	do	do (large)	241
2,000	do	do D. E	241
8,000	do	do (large) b5	240¾
600	U. S. 5-20's		109¾
	17 shares Balto. and Ohio R. R		111
	50 do do		112
134	shares City Stock, '76		107
600	do do '90		109
500	shares Laurel Coal and Oil Co		5 70
250	shares Santa Clara, b30		24¾
100	do do do		24

Prices of Stocks and Bonds in N. York, Dec. 7:

Through L. J. Tormey, Stock and Bill Broker, No. 22 South Street.

	1st B'd.	2d B'd.
United States 6's, 1881, Coupon	117¾	..
" " 5-20's	106¾	..
" " in currency	97¾	..
American Gold	236	239
Tennessee 6's	55	..
Virginia 6's	54¾	..
North Carolina 6's	59	..
Missouri 6's	64¾	..
Canton Company	34	..
Cumberland Coal and Iron Co.	46¾	..
Quicksilver	67¾	..
New York Central Railroad	123¾	123
Erie Railway Company	96¾	96¾
" " Preferred	102	..
Hudson River Railroad	116	116
Harlem Railroad	..	..
Reading Railroad	137¾	137
Michigan Central Railroad	129¾	..
Michigan S. and N. Ind R. R	73¾	73¾
Illinois Central Railroad	130	130
Cleveland and Pittsburg R. R	102¾	..
Chicago and Northwestern R. R	43¾	43¾
" " Preferred	73	..
Cleveland and Toledo Railroad	105¾	..
Chicago and Rock Island R. R	107	106¾
Milwaukee & Prairie du Chien	62¾	..
Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago	105¾	105¾
St. Louis, Alton & Terre Haute	53	..
Tone of the Market	Strong.	

By Telegraph from New York, 4 o'clock P. M.

American Gold	..
N. Y. Central	121
Erie	96¾
Southern	72¾
Pittsburg	111
L. S. & M. S. Southern	43¾
Rock Island	105¾
Fort Wayne	105
Cumberland Coal and Iron Company	47¾
Canton Company	33¾
Hudson	115¾
Tone of the market	Heavy.

At Evening Stock Exchange, 10 o'clock, P. M. Furnished by L. J. Tormey, Stock and Bill Broker, No. 22 South street.

American Gold	239
Erie Railway Company	96¾
Reading Railroad	113¾
Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad	1.16¾
Michigan S. and N. Indiana Railroad	119¾
Chicago and Rock Island Railroad	73¾
Chicago and Northwestern R. R	106¾
New York Central Railroad	43¾
Ohio and Miss. certificates	120¾
Marine pons	28¾
Tone of the market—Firm.	35¾
Gold closed at 238¾.	

BALTIMORE MARKET.

COFFEE.—No sales reported. Rio held at 43@45 cents.

SUGARS.—Market inactive and heavy. In the absence of sales we repeat previous quotations, viz:

Howard Street Super	$11.00	@00.00
" " Shipping