direct for candidates. By his plan of representation by districts each State will be heard, but none will hold a balance of power to control the result. We shall, however, be able to judge of the matter when the details of the bill are published. At all events we are almost satisfied in advance that any system in the light of the one proposed by Senator Morton will be better than the present cumbersome, intricate and roundabout way of electing our Chief Magistrate.

CONGRESS naturally has a disinclination to touch Cuban Matters. The initials are ominous—C. M.

The President's Proposed Exploration of the Amazon Valley.

Among the recommendations submitted to Congress by the President in his annual Message one of the most practical is a scheme for opening up the Amazon to commerce. As a measure for retrieving our lost commerce he proposes the exploration of the great Madeira River from its mouth, on the Amazon, to its Bolivian headwaters.

The Madeira River, with its vast serpentine volume, penetrates a country of surpassing natural fertility and wooded wealth, and is evidently the commercial artery for North American and European trade from La Paz, the Bolivian emporium. This continental highway is by far the most majestic tributary of the Amazon, and drains a surface of over one hundred and thirty thousand square miles. About five hundred miles from its turbid confluence with the Amazon its navigation is interrupted by cascades and rapids; but these are not entirely impassable by boat, and, in the opinion of old explorers, can be economically overcome by a mule road running around them to the upper falls. For a vessel drawing six feet of water the Madeira is navigable five hundred miles from its mouth to San Antonio Falls, which latter can be reached by an ordinary sailer in thirty days from New York. Lieutenant Gibbon, who explored and descended the rapids of the Madeira, unhesitatingly asserts that from San Antonio Falls, goods and merchandise can be transported in seven days beyond the highest rapids which lie on the Mamore (a tributary of the Madeira), and thence by steamboat on that bold, navigable stream and the Chapari to Bolivia, taking not more than fifty-five days from New York to Cochabamba, and sixty days to La Paz, the great trade centre of Bolivia. It now takes a ship from New York about one hundred and eighteen days to get her cargo to La Paz, because she must make the stormy and perilous passage of Cape Horn and meet with inland transportation difficulties after reaching the Peruvian seaport, Arica. Goods sent by the Madeira route might even now get to their destination at La Paz at less risk and less expense at least a month sooner than by the present transit via Cape Horn.

If further exploration of the banks of the Madeira (along its rapids to the smooth water of its Bolivian fork the Rio Mamore) demonstrates the feasibility of railroad connection, then a great point will be gained. An iron road of one hundred and eighty miles would solve all the difficulties and bring New York within forty days by steam of the heart of South Peruvian and Bolivian commerce.

The enormous wealth treasured up in the evergreen forest of India rubber, magnolia, cinchona and live oak; the rich stores of vicuna wool, llama and apaca cloths, and the exhaustless silver and other metallic wealth of the country, present the strongest inducement for exploration and early opening up to commerce of this whole favored region.

THE SPEAKER's committee making is a good definition of his name—it is a blain, a botch.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Sir Charles Hartley, of England, is staying at the Hotel Brunswick.

State Senator A. W. Palmer, of Amenia, N. Y., is registered at the Gilsey House.

Congressman W. H. Barnum, of Connecticut, has returned to the Windsor Hotel.

Professor A. McCandless, of Cornell University, is staying at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Chancellor John V. L. Pruyn arrived at the Brevoort House yesterday from Albany.

Congressman William R. Roberts arrived at the Metropolitan Hotel yesterday from Washington.

Samuel Bowles, of the Springfield *Republican*, is among the recent arrivals at the Brevoort House.

M. Von Westenberg, Minister of the Netherlands at Washington, has apartments at the Westminster Hotel.

The New Orleans *Picayune* is offered at Sheriff's sale. Alas! for the good old days of George Wilkins Kendall.

"To be or Knott to be"—J. Proctor Knott, Governor of Kentucky, or J. Proctor Knott United States Senator.

The late Jesse R. Grant's personal property amounts to between $7,000 and $8,000. Not much for the father of a President.

Think of it! Massachusetts indebted to a Blackwell's Island convict for the completion of her great Hoosac tunnel. A great bore, indeed!

Dan Voorhees has just delivered a five hours' argument in an insurance case in Mississippi and returned to Terre Haute in good condition.

Lieutenants J. M. Marshall, S. D. Dennison, D. M. Palfrey, of the artillery service, United States Army, are quartered at the Union Square Hotel.

Pool Tomah has been chosen Lieutenant Governor of the Passammoquoddy Indians. He is a peace Indian and not at all inclined to brandish the Tomah-hawk.

George W. Childs, of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, with his travelling companion, A. J. Drexel, the Philadelphia banker, yesterday arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Robert McLane, of Baltimore, United States Minister to China under President Pierce's administration, and afterwards appointed Minister to Mexico by President Buchanan, has arrived at the Hoffman House.

Rev. B. C. Flower, of Bowling Green, Ky., having been accused of something naughty during a temporary absence, comes back, defies the maligners, and threatens to prosecute to the extent of the law all who repeat the slanders. Brother Flower does not wish to be considered a "little faded flower," whatever he may be as a poppy.

Mrs. Anna M. Cabell, who died in St. Louis a few days since, was the wife of Hon. E. C. Cabell, formerly United States Senator from Florida, and daughter of Mrs. General Ashley (afterwards Mrs. John J. Crittenden), who died in St. Louis about a year since. She leaves three children, who will inherit their mother's handsome estate.

General Don José Lopez Uraga, who was formerly General-in-Chief of the Armies of Mexico, sails today on the steamer Colon, en route to Guatemala, where he goes for the benefit of his health. This distinguished officer, upon recognizing the Empire of Maximilian, became Councillor of State and Grand Chamberlain of the Imperial Household. By order of the Emperor he accompanied poor Carlotta on her trip to Yucatan. He also went to bring her back from France, but found her a raving lunatic, unable to recognize him upon his arrival at Miramar.

Navigation on the Hudson is again open to Troy. Steamboats on one line are to resume their regular trips on Saturday, starting from New York.

OUR NEW COMPLICATION.

The State Department Beginning to Think It Must Do Something.

If the Havanese Still Rebel, and if Castelar Fall, a Fleet Will Be Sent to Havana.

AMERICAN CITIZENS MUST BE PROTECTED

In Case of War the Navy Will Be Increased and the Army Raised to War Standard.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1873.

The orders lately issued by the War Department for placing our sea coast defences in readiness for action have been repeated, and in terms of greater urgency than before. Within a few days the Engineer Bureau will know the exact condition and capabilities of the works at each port, as a basis for such additional strengthening as may be possible within the time left for further improvement in the means of defence.

A RUSH OF DESPATCHES.

the State Department there has been great activity. The correspondence has required clerical labor reaching late into the night. Voluminous despatches to and from the Secretary preceded the arrival of Admiral Polo, with whom Mr. Fish held a long conference to-day after the breaking up of the Cabinet session, and more despatches followed the Minister's departure.

THE QUESTION PRESENTED TO THE CABINET BY SECRETARY FISH.

The Cabinet meeting was almost wholly occupied with the Cuban question, the present aspects of which were presented in a paper read by the Secretary of State and followed by further explanatory remarks.

DIRECT INTERVENTION NOW NECESSARY.

The situation is now said to be graver and more complicated than ever and a resort to direct intervention in Cuban affairs by this government more necessary and imminent than at any previous stage of the double insurrection in the island. The stability of the Castelar government is declared to be highly questionable from the tenor of the despatches from Madrid, and, as a consequence, the prospect of a brief and isolated contest with the Havanese is at this moment lessened. Yet, even if it withstands the shock to which it will be exposed from the reaction of the popular tumult of Havana at Madrid, there are serious apprehensions that the inability of the Spanish authorities at Havana to control the populace there will result in their speedy abdication or deposition, and the island will be thus left without any responsible government whatever.

A NAVAL FORCE NECESSARY FOR HAVANA.

But whether the Spanish authority stands or falls, it is seen that unless there be a speedy subsidence of the passions of the Havanese, American lives and property at Havana will be in great danger of lawless outrage, which can only be held in check or suppressed by the presence of an adequate American naval force in the harbor. Every effort is to be made to concentrate such a force at the earliest moment. Such is understood to have been among the chief determinations of the Cabinet to-day. Unless there should be a material increase of the dangerous symptoms reported by the press despatches and by Consul General Hall, it is thought that the vessels and the strong marine guards on board of them will constitute a sufficient force for present purposes; but otherwise it will become necessary to charter transports and send over a military force as an auxiliary to the navy.

NO NEED OF VOLUNTEERS YET.

If our government succeeds in its efforts to limit whatever conflict may ensue to the insurgent Spaniards, afloat or ashore, there are hopes that the affair may be carried through by the employment of the regular forces, and without resort to the calling out of volunteers. But if unsuccessful in thus confining its operations, and the government is forced to meet the whole power of Spain, the use of volunteers becomes highly probable, although General Sherman is understood to adhere to his recent preference for carrying up the strength of the companies of the regular army to a war standard, as the best, cheapest and most expeditious mode of organizing an army of occupation for Cuba.

FUTURE OF THE ISLAND.

Beyond all these questions of the moment lies the important question of the future of Cuba itself; and this, as already reported in these despatches, has been virtually settled, so far at least as concerns its general features. The determination of the administration is, that as we have to enter into and take possession of the island, we are not to leave it till every question now outstanding has been settled in a manner satisfactory to our honor and our interests.

PROTECTION TO A CUBAN GOVERNMENT.

If the present liberal government at Madrid survives our intervention in Cuba and remains effective for the work of immediate pacification and reform by humane and peaceful methods, the political sovereignty of Spain will be respected by the United States; but if the contrary prove to be the case, as seems to be the official belief here, it will be our duty and policy to recognize and indefinitely protect such a government as the Cubans can form for themselves.

CUBAN INDEPENDENCE AND ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

The most satisfactory assurances arising out of the present situation are, that the crisis forced upon our government by the Havanese insures the certain and speedy end of the insurrection in a manner favorable to the Cuban patriots, and the equally certain and speedy freeing of the slaves. No attempts are made by the highest officials of the government to conceal, either their determination or their satisfaction that bloodshed and slavery are to cease through our own justifiable acts.

THE WAR NEWS AND PUBLIC OPINION.

West Is Thought by New York's Cosmopolites—Reported Departure of a Privateer—Spanish Opinions—Mass Meeting of Humanitarians to Consider Cuban Cruelties.

The news from Havana in relation to the resignation of Captain General Jovellar, Señor Soler, Colonial Minister of Spain, and the political Governor of Havana, published yesterday, created a very decided sensation in the metropolis, and renewed in a large measure the war feeling which was so ripe a week or two ago. It was generally looked upon as a series of circumstances which could not do other than lead to war between the United States and Spain, and, really so far as the present republican administration of Spain is concerned, it created a good deal of sympathy for them in their embarrassment. With a rebellion in the southern part of Spain, a revolution in the North, an insurrection in Cuba among the natives, and now a threatened revolt of the power in Cuba which has sustained—so far as it has been sustained—the mother country in the Antilles, it was generally conceded that the country was a subject of misfortune and an object of pity. It evidently presages, if true, that a severe conflict is imminent either between the Spanish government and her pseudo subjects in Cuba or between the latter and the United States, though of course no warlike act could be perpetrated against the Spanish Cubans without a formal declaration of war against the government of Spain. It is generally believed that the United States will be, in fact, merely co-operating with the Spanish government to secure from rebellious subjects the conditions accorded by the legitimate powers.

The Cubans in New York were highly elated over the news, as they saw in it a chance for the deliverance of their country through the possible war with this country.

It is believed that the schooner Albert W. Smith, which sailed with a cargo of coal ostensibly for Key West, is in fact carrying supplies to a filibustering vessel. The vessel alluded to is known to be the swiftest sailing schooner that plies Staten Island Sound. She may possibly carry coal to Key West, but there is every reason to believe that she has gone to sea to supply a Cuban privateer with coal and arms. She has been lying at the above named port fully three weeks, and has been visited by several well-known members of the Cuban Junta in New York. Besides the coal she was loaded with she carried 19 heavy cases marked "Linseed Oil," consigned to parties in Fernandina, Fla., and eight long and peculiar looking boxes, which required eight men each to get them in the hold, besides other articles. Her commander is an old skipper formerly in the West India trade.

A report prevailed yesterday to the effect that Señor De Conto, editor of the Spanish paper published in this city, expected to be arrested by order of the President, for his violent ultra Spanish course in his journal; but the statement was unfounded. When asked, in relation to the subject, Mr. De Conto said he had been informed by reliable authority that the President had asked Attorney General Williams whether there was not some law under which he might be prosecuted for the publication of such articles. That is all there is in the story, and even that is most likely unfounded. It is undoubted that no American could publish in Havana articles equally abusive of the Spanish government, either at the present or any other time, but that is no reason why that form of Spanish law should prevail here.

In conversation with a HERALD reporter Mr. Rodriguez, an old resident of Havana, spoke as follows on the Cuban question:—

"The Havanese are too proud to consent to deliver up the Virginius, which they look upon as a legitimate prize, and which they intend incorporating into their navy for watching the coast and guarding against the landing of our liberating expeditions. The Spaniards in Cuba are unanimous in their belief that this country can't be made to fight. They think that the only redress the United States ever want is of a diplomatic nature. My own impression is that when a goodly number of American war vessels are to be seen cruising off Havana the 'Casino Español'—which, with the great slave dealer Zulueta at its head, virtually rules that city—then the Virginius, provided she be not sunk, will be delivered to this country, by order of the same Casino. The American people must not forget that the great question of slavery is at stake at the present moment, and hanging likewise in the balance. Should it be abolished the whole social system of the island will be upset. The Don Quixote element still reigns with great force in Cuba. The open defiance of the government of this country has been brought about by Secretary of State Fish's 'peace at any price' policy and the Spanish reliance on its continuance. The volunteers are now crowing at Havana, like a cock on its dunghill, because no other bird ventures to say it nay. We Cubans want this country to give us belligerent rights, and then we will work out our own salvation without any further recognition from Washington."

A meeting of citizens, interested in the cause of humanity, assembled on Thursday evening at the Hoffman House for the purpose of devising means for securing a mass meeting during the coming week in order to give expression to the feelings raised by the recent accounts of barbarities in the Island of Cuba. Mr. Albert B. Herrick presided and Henry Clay Preston acted as Secretary.

Mr. Daniel Sickles explained that the meeting had taken place in obedience to a call which had been numerously signed by men well known in the community. He than read the call, which was worded as follows:—

DEAR SIR—You are invited to attend a meeting of citizens at the Hoffman House, on Thursday evening, at eight o'clock, to consult as to the propriety of holding a public meeting with a view to give expression to our feelings of horror at the brutal indignities committed on American citizens, women and children, by the Spaniards in Cuba.

Mr. Sickles said meetings had already been held, but none for the purpose of humanity only, apart from political or national feelings. The aggressions of the Spaniards had been and still were contrary to the civilization of the whole world, and, therefore, it was not merely an American question. If a mass meeting could be held to allow citizens to give free expression on the single question of barbarity and inhuman conduct of the war, he thought it would do good. He therefore proposed a committee of three, consisting of John W. Simons, Ellwood E. Thorne and W. T. Woodruff, to draft resolutions to lay before the meeting for their action. Carried.

The committee then retired, and after their return the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draw up a memorial to the Congress of the United States relating to the terrible cruelties practised on women and children in the Island of Cuba, and praying the intervention of this government to cause the war in the said Island of Cuba to be so conducted as to have a resemblance to the practices of civilized nations.

Resolved, That the said memorial, when completed, be published in the journals of the city and submitted to a public meeting, to be held next week, preparatory to being sent to Congress for action.

Several gentlemen present spoke at length on the subject of the resolution, showing plainly that, as the Executive had entered into a protocol with the Spaniards, it would be useless to send the memorial to the Chief Magistrate, whereas Congress could take up the matter and even overtop the protocol. It was shown that when the Christians were being murdered in Greece a foreign nation interfered in the cause of humanity and gained the applause of the civilized world. Had the United States done the same in Cuba the whole world would have applauded the action.

The following committees were then unanimously chosen to carry out the objects of the meeting:—

Committee on Memorial—John W. Simons, John C. Boak, William T. Woodruff, Charles Roome and Daniel Sickles.

Executive Committee—Edward H. Kent, Felix Fuentes, John J. Gorman, H. Clay Preston and J. K. Larke.

NAVAL PREPARATIONS.

The Colorado to Sail To-Morrow—Other Vessels Getting Ready—The Spanish Iron-Clad Remains in Dry Dock.

Yesterday forenoon Mr. Isaiah Hanscom, Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repairs of the United States Navy, visited the Brooklyn Navy Yard on his weekly tour of inspection. In company with Admiral Rowan he inspected the Colorado, Dictator, Roanoke, Florida, Minnesota and several of the ships, satisfying himself that the work in hand was being pushed forward with commendable despatch. Three weeks ago Mr. Hanscom, who is evidently a man of few words, informed the writer that "the government meant business." So far as the continuance of the work of preparation confided to the care of the Chief of the Bureau in question is concerned, personal observation has verified the correctness of the assertion of that gentleman. Yesterday he expressed himself as well satisfied with what had been already accomplished on this station and urged greater activity if possible.

The Colorado, Captain Ransom, will drop down to the Battery to-day and take her powder on board. She will probably sail to-morrow for Key West. By next Monday week it is expected that we will have 20 men-of-war in Cuban waters. Her tackle embraces no less than 1,150 blocks of every description.

The Florida, which carries 23 nine-inch guns, will be taken to the dock vacated by the Colorado, and the Swatara, which now lies moored across the mouth of the dry dock, will occupy the place now held by the Florida above the dock. The Florida is to be rigged out and ready for commission December 21.

The Minnesota, 45 guns, 3,000 tons burden, is being pushed forward with all rapidity, the force of workmen having been increased within the past two days. She is to be turned over to the construction department for commission on the 18th inst. Being a favorite ship and very comfortable for officers, the detail office at Washington is besieged by applicants for assignment to duty on her.

Yesterday First Assistant Engineer Rickers reported for duty on the triple-turreted monitor Roanoke, being the first in the field for that vessel. She will not be ready for commission before the 23d inst. The monitor Dictator will be ready in two weeks' time. Both vessels will doubtless be assigned to harbor defence duty.

The Arapiles, that most formidable of Spanish iron-clads, continues to occupy a position of masterly inactivity, and at the same time display her noble proportions of strength to advantage in the dry dock at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Her armament consists of 17 guns, 10 of which are 68-pounders, four 300-pounders and three 240-pounders. The guns are tiered on the saluting dock in the yard and command much attention and admiration among naval officers. The heavy guns are of the Armstrong pattern, being made of steel. They carry conical balls, which are capable of doing terrible execution upon the hulls of our wooden ships at either long or short range. Although a shot from our 11-inch guns can penetrate one side of the plating of the Arapiles and a 15-inch shot can go through both sides it is admitted that she would be a foe worthy our best steel in the event of an engagement with her. As soon as the requisite repairs shall have been effected on the dock she will be floated out and will sail for Cuba direct. Her officers are very anxious to get away, feeling naturally far from being at home "in these parts" just now.

The Powhatan Off For Key West and the Manhattan to Sail To-Morrow.

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 5, 1873.

The Powhatan sailed to-day for Key West and the Manhattan will leave to-morrow.

The Monitor Manhattan.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5, 1873.

The *Press* says that the leakage of the monitor Manhattan was caused by her going to sea with her turret elevated in fighting trim, leaving an opening of two inches all round the turret. She also had her ventilators on, which are intended to be used only in harbor. On these being carried away by the waves openings of 10 inches each were left for floods of water. She was also in bad trim, her bow being eight inches lower than her stern. There are no leaks in her hull, and she will be ready to sail again as soon as precautions are taken usual on sending a monitor to sea.

Naval Orders.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1873.

Master Alexander McCracken is ordered to the Franklin.

Paymaster W. W. Woodhull and First Assistant Engineer George W. Senser is ordered to the Boston Navy Yard.

Lieutenant William Lettle is detached from the Benecia and is waiting orders.

A SPANISH COMMISSION IN MEXICO.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 3, Via MATAMORAS, Dec. 5, 1873.

The *La Prensa* says that a commission from the Captain General of Cuba has arrived in the city to buy provisions, mules, &c., for the Spanish forces in Cuba.

ANTILLES AFFAIRS IN ENGLAND.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

The Cuban Policy Affecting the London 'Change—American Securities Dull.

LONDON, Dec. 5—12:30 P. M.

A despatch from America reporting that the Captain General of Cuba says it is impossible to execute the orders for the immediate surrender of the Virginius causes dulness in the market for American securities.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, WASHINGTON, Dec. 6—1 A. M.

Probabilities.

For New England, increasing pressure, lower temperature, light northerly to westerly winds and threatening weather.

For the northern portion of the Middle States and the lower lake region cold and partly cloudy weather, with increased pressure and light winds.

FOR THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE MIDDLE STATES LIGHT SNOW OR RAIN, FOLLOWED BY CLEARING WEATHER.

For the South Atlantic and Gulf States light northerly and easterly winds, with cloudy weather and rain, the temperature remaining low on the Atlantic coast and rising in the Mississippi Valley.

For the upper lake region and thence southward to the Ohio Valley continued cold and partly cloudy weather, followed by less pressure and increased cloudiness, with winds shifting to easterly and southerly during Saturday.

For the northwest slightly rising temperature and light and fresh easterly to southerly winds, and possibly light snow.

For the Northern California and Oregon coasts brisk and high westerly winds will probably prevail.

After the 10th inst. the display of cautionary signals will be suspended at the lake ports for the winter.

The Weather in This City Yesterday.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours in comparison with the corresponding day of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's Pharmacy, HERALD Building:—

	1872.	1873.		1872.	1873.
3 A. M.	31	42	3:30 P. M.	35	38
6 A. M.	29	40	6 P. M.	36	36
9 A. M.	32	40	9 P. M.	35	35
12 M.	35	39	12 P. M.	34	34

Average temperature yesterday 38

Average temperature for corresponding date last year 33½

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Effects of the Storm—The Quebec Legislature—Arrival of the War Steamer Swallow at Halifax—Parliamentary Election—Confession of a Murderer.

TORONTO, Dec. 5, 1873.

The gale has subsided, and its devastations in this city and the surrounding country were unprecedentedly extensive and severe. Among the buildings here, other than those already named, that sustained serious damage were the gas works, General Hospital, Normal School, &c.

The total loss will probably reach $100,000. Reports from various points—east, west, north and northwest—indicate that the storm was of a most violent and destructive character.

The telegraph wires damaged by the storm are being rapidly repaired and communication resumed.

Vessels Driven Ashore on Lake Ontario.

HAMILTON, Dec. 5, 1873.

The steamer Acadia, lying near Beckett's wharf; the pleasure steamer Transit and the schooner Florence were driven ashore during the recent storm. All sustained more or less damage.

The Storm at Montreal.

MONTREAL, Dec. 5, 1873.

A squall passed over this city to-day, carrying away double windows, boards, panes of glass and ripping tin from roofs. A number of casualties to pedestrians are reported. The telegraph lines were blown down, and communication with the States and Canada was seriously interrupted.

The Parliament House of Pembina Burned.

FORT GARRY, Dec. 5, 1873.

A destructive fire occurred here last night, by which the Parliament buildings were totally consumed. All the books and official documents were saved.

Arrival of the Swallow at Halifax—A Murderer's Confession.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 5, 1873.

The English war vessel Swallow arrived at this port on Thursday. She reports having experienced a heavy gale on the outward passage in which she lost a foreyard and had one of her quarter boats stove. She also experienced heavy weather on her return trip.

The machinery of the gold mine at Goldenville was destroyed by fire on Sunday night. The loss is heavy and 50 men are thrown out of employment.

Mr. Laird, Minister of the Interior, has been re-elected for the Belfast district of Prince Edward's Island. C. K. Fallons was his opponent.

Pictou Harbor is again clear of ice.

Peter Martman, in jail at Lunenburg under sentence of death, confessed to Rev. H. L. Owen yesterday that he murdered his wife, but does not repent. He will not eat anything, and is so sick that he is not expected to live. The man appears to be perfectly sane.

THE PITTSBURG DEFALCATION.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 5, 1873.

A petition was filed in the United States District Court to-day by the President and trustees of the National Trust Company, asking that Robert J. Grier, their late cashier, be adjudged bankrupt. The petition sets forth that Grier converted to his own use large sums of money, valuable bills receivable and notes to the amount of many thousand dollars, which belong to the said banking company, the exact amount of which cannot be given, and that he has left the State, with the intention of defrauding his creditors.

SPAIN.

Personalities in the Ministry—A Cabinet Crisis Probable.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MADRID, Dec. 5, 1873.

It is reported that a disagreement has occurred between Castelar and Salmeron.

The *Correspondencia* says, in the event of a crisis on the reassembling of the Cortes, the Left will oppose Salmeron and support Pi y Margall for the Presidency.

Cartagena Still in Danger from Government Fire.

MADRID, Dec. 5, 1873.

The government intends to push the bombardment of Cartagena.

The Insurgents Receiving Material Aid.

LONDON, Dec. 6—6 A. M.

The government squadron has not been seen in the vicinity of Cartagena for a week. The insurgents, in its absence, have been able to procure fresh supplies daily and have captured several provision boats.

ENGLAND.

The Ministry Endorsed by an Influential Constituency—Discount on 'Change and at the Bank—Movement of Bullion—Fire and Loss of Life.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Dec. 5, 1873.

Mr. Vernon Harcourt was to-day re-elected to Parliament from Oxford without opposition.

DISCOUNT ON 'CHANGE AND AT THE BANK.

The rate of discount in the open market for three months' bills is 4¼ per cent, or ⅛ per cent below the Bank of England rate.

BULLION TO THE BANK.

The amount of bullion gone into the Bank of England on balance to-day is £91,000.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.

A factory at Halifax was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is estimated at $150,000.

Three persons were killed by falling walls.

GERMANY.

Imperialist Denial of the Manteuffel Duel News.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BERLIN, Dec. 5, 1873.

The *North German Gazette*, by royal command, gives a positive denial to the report that General Manteuffel had fought a duel.

CENTRAL ASIA.

Russia Preparing Another Expedition for Conquest.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Dec. 5, 1873.

The *Pall Mall Gazette*, in its issue this afternoon, says, Russia is preparing a fresh expedition to be sent against the Turcomans.

British Report of Kaufmann's Administration—Serious Charges Against the Russian Commander.

LONDON, Dec. 6, 1873.

A special despatch to the *Daily Telegraph* from its Central Asia correspondent says General Kaufmann, "by his wasteful and corrupt administration in Turkestan and his conduct in the late campaign against Khiva, has incurred the displeasure of the Czar."

THE LAST NIGHT OF THE OPERA.

Addio! the saddest word in the tuneful language of sunny Italy! Last night was the final representation of Verdi's glorious work, which has taken such a hold on the American public. The house was crowded to suffocation, and rarely has such enthusiasm been manifested in any place of amusement in this city. From the exquisite "Celeste Aïda" of the love-stricken Radames in the first act to the rapturous duet to the dying lovers in the last, each artist vied with chorus and orchestra to gain the rarely won laurels that are wreathed into the word, "perfection." Mlle. Torriani, Miss Cary and Messrs. Campanini, Nannetti, Maurel and Scolara were all greeted with that genuine applause that is so dear to the heart of every artist, and on no Nilsson evening was there a more hearty and significant outburst of public commendation. A matinée of "Mignon" will complete, to-day, the best operatic season ever witnessed in New York for a decade or two.

In connection with the performance last evening at the Academy of Music, the police authorities figure in a very unpleasant manner. We have been assured by the director of the opera and the principal representatives of the stockholders of the recognized home of opera in the metropolis that last evening, by order of the Police Commissioners, the usual and necessary guard of policemen—necessary from the fact that 3,000 or 4,000 ladies and gentlemen, mostly of the higher classes of society, were assembled together and presented a rich harvest for the dangerous classes of the city—was withdrawn. The reason alleged is, that the Police Commissioners applied yesterday, by deputies, at the box office for a large number of free tickets, and were refused by Mr. Strakosch on the ground that the demand for seats by persons willing to pay for them was so great that nothing was left for police deadheads. Mr. Strakosch has bravely fought through a season of unexampled financial troubles, and has shown, in every sense of the word, the spirit of a man willing to and capable, under all circumstances, of carrying out his engagements to the public. If the representations made to us last night be true, and they have some of the leading men of New York as vouchers, the chiefs of the Police Department of the metropolis occupy very undesirable positions. Mr. Strakosch was distinctly threatened with the entire withdrawal of police protection because he refused free tickets to the magnates of Mulberry street. We only speak from hearsay, but our informants occupy the most prominent positions in society and wealth in New York.

CALIFORNIA.

Heavy Snow and Rain Storm—Safety of Vessels.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 5, 1873.

Rains have been very general throughout the State recently, and have been of great benefit to the farmers everywhere.

A snow storm has prevailed throughout California. There has not been such a severe one here for 10 years. The weather is still stormy and unsettled.

Many vessels, unable to make this harbor last night on account of strong southeast gales, came in to-day.

The following are the latest mining stock quotations:—Ophir, 81; Savage, 70; Choller, 55; Hale and Norcross, 38; Consolidated Virginia, 57; Yellow Jacket, 62; Crown Point, 96; Overman, 43; Belcher, 87½, and Segregated Belcher, 77.

A RAILROAD CONVENTION.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 5, 1873.

Extensive preparations are making for the reception of the Railroad Convention, which meets here next week, in the interest of direct railway connection between Chicago and Charleston. Strong delegations are expected from Chicago and various other points along the proposed route, and the South Carolina Railroad and New York and Charleston Steamship Line will pass delegates free.

Phalon's Vitalia is the Best and Most agreeable HAIR COLORER in the world.

A.—Gentlemen's Hats—Winter Fashion for 1873-4. The established excellence and style of HATS manufactured by EARNSHAW, for gentlemen's wear, renders it needful for him only to announce that his WINTER HATS are ready for inspection and sale at 118 Nassau street.

Ask for Goodall's—The Finest Imported and cheapest Domestic PLAYING CARDS. Beautiful new patterns. Sold everywhere.

A.—Bright's Disease, Gravel, Diabetes, Gout and Nervous Debility cured by KEARNEY'S BUCHU. Take no other if you desire a speedy and permanent cure. Depot 104 Duane street.

A War Against Cuba, While Wolcott's CATARRH ANNIHILATOR subdues Catarrh; six pints, $5. Depot 181 Chatham square, New York.

Anakesis Will Cure the Worst Cases of Piles. Sold by all druggists. Depot 46 Walker street.

A Positive Cure for Diphtheria and scarlet fever.—CHEESEMAN'S ARABIAN BALSAM, established 50 years, never fails. At drug stores or 51 John street.

A.—Buy Your Furs At Knox's.—Ladies, remember this is a special edict. His stock is dashingly elegant, and his prices reasonable. KNOX'S stores are at No. 212 Broadway, in the Prescott House and Fifth Avenue Hotel.

A.—A.—Soiled Boots and Shoes, Less— than half price, at BROOKS', 1,196 Broadway, corner Twenty-ninth street.

A.—A.—10,000 Pairs Self-Acting Over SHOES; put on and off without using the hands. 1,196 Broadway, corner Twenty-ninth street.

A.—Hernia Is Permanently Cured by the ELASTIC TRUSS COMPANY, 683 Broadway. Branch offices, 1,292 Chestnut street, Philadelphia; 129 Tremont street, Boston, and 24 other branches in the principal cities.

As a Standard Remedy for Coughs and Colds PORTER'S COUGH BALSAM is acknowledged by all who have given it a trial as the most reliable. It is particularly adapted to affections of the throat and lungs diseases. Price 25c., 50c. and 75c. a bottle.

A Neglected Cough, Cold or Sore Throat, which might be checked by a simple remedy like BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES, if allowed to progress may terminate seriously.

A.—F. A. O. Schwarz's Toy and Fancy Goods Emporium, 755 Broadway, near Ninth street, is acknowledged as the largest and best selection in the city. Prices to suit the times. Please call and examine.

Are You Disturbed at Night? and broken of rest by a child suffering and crying with the pain of cutting teeth? If so, go at once and get a bottle of Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the little sufferer immediately. It cures wind colic, regulates the bowels, and is perfectly safe in all cases.

Baker's Chocolate.—If You Wish the best VANILLA CHOCOLATE get BAKER'S.

Baker's Chocolate.—A Good Cup of Co-coa is easily had if you will insist on your grocer furnishing W. BAKER & CO.'S HOMŒOPATHIC COCOA.

Comfort for Tender Feet, Winter Boots and Overshoes in great variety.
EUGENE FERRIS, 150 Fulton street, near Broadway.

Fancy Groceries, Table Luxuries, Eng-LISH PICKLES and SAUCES, CANNED GOODS, &c., at very close figures. H. B. KIRK & CO., 69 Fulton street.

Royal Havana Lottery—Extraordi-nary.—$1,200,000 distributed (prize in every seven tickets); prizes cashed; orders filled; information furnished; Spanish bank bills and governments purchased.
TAYLOR & CO., Bankers, 11 Wall street, New York.

Wigs, Toupees, &c.—G. Rauchfuss, practical Wig and Toupee maker, 44 East Twelfth street, near Broadway.

Youmans' New Opera Turban for Even-ing wear. Price $3 50, best quality.—YOUMANS, Hatter, 719 and 1,103 Broadway. Holiday hats ready.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

CHARMING READING.
FRESH NOVELS
by
BRILLIANT WRITERS.

I.
BY MRS. ANNIE EDWARDS.
"Mrs. Edwards is one of the brightest and freshest of the novel writers of the day."—Journal, Boston.

Miss Forrester	$1 00
Ought We to Visit Her	1 00
The Ordeal for Wives	1 00
Archie Lovell	1 00
Steven Lawrence, Yeoman	1 00
Susan Fielding	1 00
Philip Earnscliffe	1 00
A Vagabond Heroine	75

BY JUSTIN McCARTHY.

A Fair Saxon	$1 00
Lady Judith	1 25

BY J. W. DE FOREST.

Overland	$1 00

A Charming Historical Novel by the Best of the German Writers.
THE ROSE OF DISENTIS,
translated from the
GERMAN OF ZSCHOKKE.
$1.
The first of a Series.

Any of the above sent by mail, postpaid, on receipt of the price. Address SHELDON & CO., New York.

CHEAPEST BOOK STORE IN THE WORLD.
18,672 Holiday Books, just received, at your price.
10,672 Bibles and Prayer Books, at our price.
67,432 Juveniles, for the holidays, at any price.
68,432 Stereoscopic Views, 75 cents per dozen.
Catalogue No. 38, free. Send stamp.
LEGGAT BROTHERS,
No. 3 Beekman street, corner of Park row.

D. APPLETON & CO.,
549 and 551 Broadway, New York,
publish this day,
I.
THE TWO ADMIRALS.
A TALE. By J. Fenimore Cooper. 1 vol., 8vo, paper covers, 75c.; cloth, $1 25. With eight illustrations by F. O. C. Darley.
This volume completes the "Sea Tales," published in a uniform 8vo form, with illustrations by F. O. C. Darley. The series comprises "The Pilot," "The Red Rover," "The Water Witch," "Wing-and-Wing" and "The Two Admirals."
II.
RELIGION AND SCIENCE.
A Series of Sunday Lectures on the Relation of Natural and Revealed Religion; or, the Truths Revealed in Nature and Scripture. By Joseph Le Conte, Professor of Geology and Natural History in the University of California. 1 vol., 12mo, cloth, price $1 50.
"The series of lectures contained in this little volume is the result of an earnest attempt to reconcile the truths revealed in Scripture with those revealed in Nature, by one who has, all his active life, been a reverent student of both."—Extract from preface.
III.
THE PROSTRATE STATE:
SOUTH CAROLINA UNDER NEGRO GOVERNMENT.
By James S. Pike, late Minister of the United States at the Hague. 1 vol., 12mo, cloth, price $1.
"The following pages were written in South Carolina during the session of the Legislature, in the months of February and March, 1873. They take their coloring from the scenes by which the writer was surrounded. This explanation is necessary to account for the form in which a portion of its contents is presented."—Extract from preface.

Either of the above, when not to be had in book stores, sent, post paid, by mail to any part of the United States, on receipt of the price.

FANNY FERN MEMORIAL.
One of the most appropriate gifts for Christmas is Mr. James Parton's new book, "A Memorial of Fanny Fern," containing her biography and select writings, with illustrations. Price $2. ***At CARLETON'S Publishing House, Madison square, the choicest selection of Holiday Books in New York