

Editor's Historical Record.

POLITICAL.

OUR Record is closed on the 25th of October.—Elections were held, October 12, as follows: Indiana for State officers, 13 Congressmen, Legislature, and county officers. Total vote for Governor: Porter (Republican), 230,291; Landers (Democrat), 222,740; Gregg (National), 14,863; plurality for Porter, 7551. Congressmen, 8 Republicans and 5 Democrats. Ohio elected a Secretary of State and minor State officers. There were four tickets in the field—Democratic, Republican, Greenback, and Prohibition. Republican plurality about 20,000. West Virginia voted for State officers, Legislature, and county officers. Probable Democratic plurality of 10,000 on the vote for Governor. Legislature Democratic.

Local elections in Connecticut, October 4, resulted in a Republican gain of twenty towns over the election of 1876.

The New Hampshire Greenback State Convention met at Manchester, September 29, and nominated for Governor Warren S. Brown. Presidential electors, Congressmen, and other officers were also nominated.

The South Carolina Greenback State Convention met at Chester, September 28, and nominated for Governor L. W. R. Blair; Lieutenant-Governor, B. C. Gist.

Hon. Alfred H. Colquitt was re-elected Governor of Georgia, October 6, by a majority of over 50,000.

The Vermont Legislature, October 19, re-elected George F. Edmunds, United States Senator.

The centennial celebration of the capture of Major André took place at Tarrytown, New York, September 23. There was an immense procession, after which ex-Governor Tilden made an address, and Hon. Chauncey M. Depew delivered an oration.

The Sultan of Turkey, October 11, signed an irade in which he ordered the surrender of Dulcigno. On the 25th the conditions of the convention for the surrender were still unsettled. One of the questions was as to the road by which the Montenegrins should advance on Dulcigno. Riza Pasha had undertaken to form a cordon around the town to prevent an Albanian invasion. In any case the Porte had ordered the surrender to be made within five days, and in view of this the Ottoman Commissioner withdrew several conditions to which Montenegro objected, notably those relating to the retention of the Turkish flag on coasting vessels and the maintenance of Turkish laws in the Dulcigno district.

The French cabinet council, October 13, unanimously approved the proposal of M. Constans, Minister of the Interior and of Worship, for the enforcement of the decrees against the unauthorized religious communities.

The Indian chief Victorio was pursued by

Mexican troops and killed, together with fifty of his braves and eighteen women and children, on October 14.

The Czar of Russia was married, October 19 (Old Style), to the Princess Dolgorouki, in the chapel of the imperial palace.

Chili and the United States of Colombia signed a compact, October 16, in which it is agreed to submit to arbitration all questions in dispute between the two republics. In case the arbitrators should not agree, the matter is to be referred to the President of the United States of America.

The Kurds have destroyed totally or partially one hundred and seventy Persian villages, and the Shah has telegraphed to Turkey for help to quell the outbreak.

There was great rejoicing in Buenos Ayres, October 13, on the occasion of the installation of General Roca as President of the new Argentine government. Romero has assumed office as Governor of the province of Buenos Ayres.

News was received in London, October 16, that Don Candido Bareiro, President of Paraguay, was dead, and that General Caballero, Minister of the Interior, had succeeded to the Presidency.

DISASTERS.

September 18.—Land-slip at Naini Tal, Bengal, killing thirty-nine Europeans, of whom several were British soldiers.

October 8.—Collision on the New York and New England Railroad, at Willimantic, Connecticut. Five killed and several wounded.

October 9.—Collision in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, between two trains of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Twenty-seven persons killed.

October 12.—Water burst into the Ford Pit of the Albion Mines, Stellarton, Nova Scotia, killing ten men.

October 16.—About this date the steamer *Alpena*, of the Goodrich line, on her way from Grand Haven for Chicago, was lost, with all on board, numbering, it is said, seventy or eighty.

October 20.—Boiler explosion, Terre Haute, Indiana, killing five men, and wounding many.—Factory burned at Cincinnati, Ohio. Five women killed.

October 23.—The sea-port town of Iquique, Peru, almost totally destroyed by fire.

OBITUARY.

October 4.—In Paris, France, Jacques Offenbach, musician, aged sixty-one years.

October 6.—In Boston, Massachusetts, Professor Benjamin Peirce, of Harvard College, aged seventy-one years.

October 20.—At Wayland, Massachusetts, Lydia Maria Child, authoress, aged seventy-eight years.

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POLITICAL.

OUR Record is closed on the 20th of November.—The Presidential election took place November 2. There were five tickets in the field, viz., Republican, General James Abram Garfield, of Ohio, and General Chester Allan Arthur, of New York; Democratic, General Winfield Scott Hancock, of Pennsylvania, and Hon. William H. English, of Indiana; Greenback-Labor, Hon. James B. Weaver, of Iowa, and Benjamin J. Chambers, of Texas; Prohibition, Neal Dow, of Maine, and Henry A. Thompson, of Ohio; Anti-Masonic, John W. Phelps, of Vermont, and Ex-Senator Samuel C. Pomeroy, of Kansas. The Republicans gained the day, the assured electoral vote being for Garfield and Arthur, 213; Hancock and English, 156. The States were equally divided in numbers, each of the two great parties carrying nineteen. The majorities and pluralities by States, as far as known or estimated, are as follows: Republican—Colorado, majority, 3000; Connecticut, plurality, 2656; Illinois, majority, 44,000; Indiana, plurality, 6540; Iowa, plurality, 78,000; Kansas, plurality, 58,600; Maine, majority, 4000; Massachusetts, plurality, 53,238; Michigan, majority, 40,000; Minnesota, majority, 40,000; Nebraska, majority, 25,000; New Hampshire, plurality, 4045; New York, majority nearly 21,000; Ohio, plurality, 34,217; Oregon, majority, 763; Pennsylvania, plurality, 37,276; Rhode Island, plurality, 7417; Vermont, majority, 27,000; Wisconsin, plurality, 30,000. Democratic—Alabama, majority, 35,000; Arkansas, majority, 30,000; California, plurality, 122; Delaware, majority, 1033; Florida, unknown; Georgia, majority, 50,000; Kentucky, majority, 60,000; Louisiana, majority, 32,709; Maryland, majority, 15,191; Mississippi, majority, 45,000; Missouri, plurality, 55,002; Nevada, majority, 600; New Jersey, plurality, 2421; North Carolina, majority, 8588; South Carolina, majority, 30,000; Tennessee, unknown; Texas, majority, 70,000; Virginia, majority, 12,800; West Virginia, majority, 15,000. New York city gave Hancock 123,015; Garfield, 81,730.

The new Congress will probably have a Republican majority on joint ballot of about 13. The Senate will stand Republicans 37, Democrats 37, Independents 2. The House will be Republican by not less than 15 majority.

Fifteen States elected Governors, nine of whom are Republicans and six Democrats.

The people of Kansas adopted a constitutional amendment forbidding the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors except for medicinal, mechanical, or scientific purposes.

The Legislature of Georgia, November 16, elected Joseph E. Brown as United States Senator.

General Garfield, November 10, sent to Governor Foster, of Ohio, his resignation as a Congressman.

The decrees of the French government against the various unauthorized religious orders were enforced throughout the country during the month. The police met with considerable resistance, and were obliged to force doors and demolish barricades before the work of ejection could be accomplished. Arrests were made in several instances, and some of the obstructionists were sentenced to imprisonment.—On November 9 the Chambers refused to give priority to the Education Bill, and M. Ferry's ministry resigned. Two days later a vote of confidence was given (297 to 131), and the ministers withdrew their resignations.

The commotion in Ireland still continues. Land League meetings have been held in many places, and the government has been severely denounced for prosecuting the agitators. The troops sent to the farm of Captain Boycott to protect his laborers in harvesting the crops arrived November 12.

DISASTERS.

November 3.—Thirteen men precipitated to the bottom of a colliery shaft and killed by the breaking of the hoisting apparatus, at Mons, Belgium.

November 6.—The steamer *Rhode Island*, of the Providence Line, struck on the rocks off Bonnet Point, Narragansett Bay, during a dense fog, and was totally wrecked. No lives lost.—News from Yokohama of disastrous results of a typhoon in Japan, October 3. In Tokio over one thousand houses were demolished, and hundreds of fishermen were drowned in the bay.

November 9.—Earthquake in Southern Austria. Half the town of Agram, in Croatia, was destroyed, and several persons were killed.

November 10.—Cyclone at Keatchie, Louisiana, demolishing the town and killing several persons.

November 12.—Colliery explosion, Stellarton, Nova Scotia. Fifty lives lost.

November 15.—Insane Asylum at St. Peter, Minnesota, burned. Twenty-six lives lost.

November 18.—News in London of the foundering of the British ship *Galatea* off Cape Clear. Twenty-one persons drowned.

OBITUARY.

November 8.—At New Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Colonel E. L. Drake, who drilled the first oil-well at Titusville, and thus became the founder of the petroleum business.

November 9.—Announcement in London of the death of the Marquis of Albaida, Spanish statesman, aged seventy-eight years.

November 11.—Near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Lucretia Mott, philanthropist, reformer, and preacher of the Society of Friends, aged eighty-seven years.

tive tale of a foreign island, and certainly having a more substantial value as an incentive to youthful patriotism, is *The Story of the United States Navy*,³⁴ prepared for boys by our indefatigable and accurate American annalist, Benson J. Lossing. Mr. Lossing sketches the more important achievements of our navy in outline, it is true, but with sufficient minuteness of detail to direct attention to inspiring instances of individual heroism, and to give a just idea of the part borne by the navy in vindicating the national honor, and protecting our citizens and commerce. In an appendix Mr. Lossing has collected a dozen old-time and recent naval ballads, whose ringing patriotism will stir the heart of Young America like the blast of a trumpet. The book is profusely illustrated with correct pictures of men and things, which, with the narrative, form a comprehensive his-

³⁴ *The Story of the United States Navy.* For Boys. By BENSON J. LOSSING, LL.D. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 418. New York: Harper and Brothers.

tory of the navy and its work.—Few books have a more generous Christmas aroma, or are more suggestive of the out-of-door sights, sounds, and enjoyments peculiar to the joyous season, than Miss Warner's *Carl Krinken and his Christmas Stocking*,³⁵ and *Allie's Mistake*,³⁶ by Rebecca Gibbons Beach.—Three other volumes, *In the Sunlight and Out of It*,³⁷ *Nobody's Lad*,³⁸ and *How Nora Crena Saved Her Own*,³⁹ are tales with a less obvious Christmas atmosphere than those just named, and with a definite but sweet and winning religious under-tone.

³⁵ *Carl Krinken: his Christmas Stocking.* By the Author of the Wide, Wide World. 16mo, pp. 308. New York: Robert Carter and Brothers.

³⁶ *Allie's Mistake.* A Christmas Story. By REBECCA GIBBONS BEACH. 16mo, pp. 251. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

³⁷ *In the Sunlight and Out of It.* A Year of my Life-Story. By CATHARINE SHAW. 12mo, pp. 224. New York: Robert Carter and Brothers.

³⁸ *Nobody's Lad.* By LESLIE KEITH. With Illustrations by PETERBOK. 12mo, pp. 218. New York: Robert Carter and Brothers.

³⁹ *How Nora Crena Saved Her Own.* By L. T. MEADE. 12mo, pp. 316. New York: Robert Carter and Brothers.

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POLITICAL.

OUR Record is closed on the 22d of December.—The third session of the Forty-sixth Congress was begun December 6. The President's Message was read in both Houses. Among its recommendations to Congress were the following: To create the office of Captain-General of the Army for General Grant; to defend the inviolability of the constitutional amendments; to promote free popular education by grants of public lands and appropriations from the United States Treasury; to appropriate \$25,000 annually for the expenses of a commission to be appointed by the President to devise a just, uniform, and efficient system of competitive examinations, and to supervise the application of the same throughout the entire civil service of the government; to pass a law defining the relations of Congressmen to appointments to office, so as to end Congressional encroachment upon the appointing power; to repeal the Tenure-of-office Act, and pass a law protecting office-holders in resistance to political assessments; to abolish the present system of executive and judicial government in Utah, and substitute for it a government by a commission to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, or, in case the present government is continued, to withhold from all who practice polygamy the right to vote, hold office, and sit on juries; to repeal the act authorizing the coinage of the silver dollar of 412½ grains, and to authorize the coinage of a new silver dollar equal in value as bullion with the gold dollar; to take favorable action on the bill providing for the allotment of lands on the different res-

ervations in severalty to the Indians, with patents conferring fee-simple title inalienable for a certain period, and the eventual disposition of the residue of the reservations for general settlement, with the consent and for the benefit of the Indians, placing the latter under the equal protection of the laws of the country.

The bill for the relief of General Fitz-John Porter was amended and passed by the Senate December 14. It authorizes the President, in his discretion, by and with the consent of the Senate, to nominate General Porter to be placed upon the retired list, with the rank of colonel.

Senator Pendleton, of Ohio, December 15, introduced a bill to regulate the civil service and to promote the efficiency thereof, and also a bill to prohibit Federal officers, claimants, and contractors from making or receiving assessments or contributions for political purposes.

The Fortification Appropriation Bill, amounting to \$450,000, the regular Pensions Appropriation Bill, amounting to \$50,000,000, and the Military Academy Bill, appropriating \$322,135 37, were passed by the House December 15, 16, and 18 respectively.

The Burnside Educational Bill passed the Senate December 17. It provides that the proceeds of the sale of public land and the earnings of the Patent Office shall be funded at four per cent., and the interest divided among the States in proportion to their illiteracy. An amendment by Senator Morgan provides for the instruction of women in the State agricultural colleges in such branches of technical and industrial education as are suited to their sex.

Two treaties between this country and China were signed at Peking November 17, one of commerce, and the other securing to the United States the control and regulation of the Chinese immigration.

The British Admiralty, December 8, decided to abolish flogging in the navy.

The commotion in Ireland is unabated, and a reign of terror exists in a large part of the country. Important sessions of the cabinet have been held, but coercion has not yet been resolved upon. The Irish magistrates, replying to Mr. Forster's circular, in which he reminded them of their powers, expressed the opinion that they would be unable to carry out the provisions of the circular. Mr. Forster therefore told his colleagues that the ordinary law could not be depended upon.

The Greek preparations for war are going forward. The Chamber of Deputies, December 9, passed all the supplementary votes, including about \$8,500,000 for the Ministries of War and Marine.

Dulcigno was captured by Dervisch Pasha, November 24, after an engagement of eight hours with the Albanians. Two days later the town was surrendered to the Montenegrins.

DISASTERS.

November 19.—Fire-damp explosion in a coal-pit near Mons, Belgium. Twelve men killed.

—News of the loss of the British steamer *Mildred*, from New York, September 28, for Marseilles. Twenty-three men drowned.

November 24.—French steamer *Oncle Joseph* run into and sunk near Spezia. Two hundred and fifty persons drowned.

December 10.—Explosion at the Pen-y-graig New Colliery, in the Rhondda Valley, Wales. One hundred miners killed.

December 17.—Fire in wall-paper factory, Buffalo, New York. Fifteen lives lost.

OBITUARY.

November 20.—At Indianapolis, Indiana, Governor James D. Williams, in his seventy-third year.

November 20.—In London, England, Sir Alexander J. E. Cockburn, Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, aged seventy-eight years.

November 23.—In London, England, Mrs. Estelle Anna Lewis, an American author, aged fifty-six years.

December 12.—In Paris, France, Madame Thiers, widow of the ex-President, aged fifty-five years.

December 19.—In London, England, the Duchess of Westminster, *née* Lady Constance Gertrude Leveson-Gower, aged fifty years.

December 20.—In London, England, Francis Trevelyan Buckland, naturalist, aged fifty-four years.

Editor's Drawer.

MR. MURAT HALSTEAD, of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, is well known as an original and versatile journalist, and a politician of great independence and some eccentricities; but it is not generally known that he is the humorist *par excellence* of the West. Recently a fellow applied to Mr. Halstead for either work or a temporary loan of money. His application being declined, he undertook to enforce it by threatening suicide. He said he would walk out to the centre of the Covington bridge, jump off, and drown himself.

"Well, now, that's a good thought," said Halstead. "I'd go right down and do that; it will relieve you and me of a great responsibility for your future support. Go right off and do it while you are in the notion."

The fellow struck out in the direction of the bridge. Presently Mr. Halstead rushed after him, and called him to stop. The fellow evidently thought he had won his point. "Stop! stop now! don't do that," continued Mr. H. "It won't be safe; try some other plan. Come to think of it, the last two fellows who tried that were both *got out alive*."

A GOOD old Presbyterian elder, living at M——, Illinois, as a minor part of his business, sold the cobs which came from his steamsheller. One day he received a note from a

minister known for his close ideas of economy, asking that a load of cobs might be sent to his house, signed, "Yours, in the blessed Gospel of our," etc. The old elder, not fancying this sanctimonious mixing up of religion with cobs, sent the cobs, with a little note signed, "Yours, in the cob business." Besides, cobs had "riz."

ELDER GEORGE CHAMPLIN, now dead, preached many years in Rhode Island. He was a colored man, but sharp and witty, and withal of good sense, though not without some failings. At one time some of his hearers complained that he was personal and severe in some of his remarks. Elder C. replied, "When I am preaching I shoot right at the devil every time, and if any one gets between me and the devil, he will be liable to get hurt."

At the Baptist Social Union recently held in Providence, Rhode Island, Dr. Gordon, a guest from Boston, related the following:

A colored brother from the South recently came to his church to solicit money in behalf of some interest with which he was connected. After the brother had made his appeal, one of the members of the church arose and "wished to know why everybody seemed to come to their church to beg money." Dr. Gordon said he feared the remarks would be very discour-

and its religious superstition and intolerance, slightly alleviated by the dawn of a purer and milder faith. The novel carries the reader to the courts of Henry and his contemporary Alexander of Scotland, and to the inner domestic life of the families of their great nobles, and it portrays with historical fidelity the religious and political events of the day, and its social, domestic, ecclesiastical, and industrial characteristics. Its connected pictures of the life of the people, more especially of such proscribed classes as Jews and heretics, of the turbulence and haughtiness of the nobles, of the position of woman, and of the reformed religious movement that was beginning to make itself felt, are vivid and authentic. This interesting tale is a successful revival of a momentous period in English history.

CHARLOTTE M. YONGE'S *Love and Life*¹⁰ is a story of the eighteenth century, treated in the literary style of the romance writers of the latter half of that period, albeit with some ju-

¹⁰ *Love and Life*. An Old Story in Eighteenth Century Costume. By CHARLOTTE M. YONGE, Author of the *Heir of Redclyffe*, etc. "Franklin Square Library." 4to, pp. 54. New York: Harper and Brothers.

icious modifications. The pervading sweetness and purity of its sentiment render it a safe and invigorating visitant of the domestic circle.—As respects its characters, materials, and general treatment, Mr. Trollope's novel, *Dr. Wortle's School*,¹¹ has little in common with his previous works of fiction, and none of the marks of his individuality as a writer. In it he moves in a new world, and among unfamiliar persons, and with a certain appearance of strangeness and want of ease. The character of Dr. Wortle is drawn with admirable skill and power.—The remaining novels, *Little Pansy*,¹² by Mrs. Randolph, *The Rebel of the Family*,¹³ by Mrs. Linton, *Nestlebrook*,¹⁴ by Leonard Kip, and *Elsie Gordon*,¹⁵ are quiet, wholesome, and readable tales.

¹¹ *Dr. Wortle's School*. A Novel. By ANTHONY TROLLOPE. "Franklin Square Library." 4to, pp. 30. New York: Harper and Brothers.

¹² *Little Pansy*. A Novel. By MRS. RANDOLPH. "Franklin Square Library." 4to, pp. 71. New York: Harper and Brothers.

¹³ *The Rebel of the Family*. A Novel. By E. LYNN LINTON. "Franklin Square Library." 4to, pp. 80. New York: Harper and Brothers.

¹⁴ *Nestlebrook*. A Tale. By LEONARD KIP. Sq. 12mo, pp. 815. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

¹⁵ *Elsie Gordon; or, Through Thorny Paths*. By EMILY BRODIE. 12mo, pp. 211. New York: Robert Carter and Brothers.

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POLITICAL.

OUR Record is closed on the 19th of January.—The following appropriation bills were passed in Congress during the month: The Army Bill, amounting to \$26,190,800; House, January 5; and Senate, with amendments cutting off about \$200,000, January 14. Consular and Diplomatic Bill, \$1,195,435; Senate, January 7. Indian Bill, \$4,531,866; House, January 11, with clause abolishing the Board of Indian Commissioners. Military Academy Bill, \$322,135 37; Senate, January 14.

The House, January 17, directed an inquiry to be made into the expediency of establishing a telegraphic postal system by the government of the United States; and also as to the cost of reproducing facilities for transmitting telegraphic messages equal to those now possessed by existing corporations, and as to the expediency of operating the same.

General Nathan Goff, Jun., of West Virginia, was nominated and confirmed as Secretary of the Navy, January 6.

The following United States Senators have been elected: James G. Fair, Nevada; John F. Miller, California; Thomas F. Bayard, Delaware (re-elected); General Joseph R. Hawley, Connecticut; O. D. Conger, Michigan; H. L. Dawes, Massachusetts (re-elected); Eugene Hale, Maine; Thomas C. Platt, New York; Benjamin Harrison, Indiana; John Sherman, Ohio; F. M. Cockrell, Missouri.

The Maine Legislature, January 12, declared

Harris M. Plaisted to have been elected Governor.

The Superintendent of the Census reports the total population of the United States and Territories to be 50,152,356.

The British Parliament was opened January 6. The Queen in her address referred at length to the troubles in Ireland, and recommended the further development of the principles of the Land Act of 1870 "in a manner conformable to the special wants of Ireland, both as regards the relation of landlord and tenant, and with a view to effective efforts for giving to a larger portion of the people by purchase a permanent proprietary interest in the soil. This legislation will require the removal for the purposes in view of all obstacles arising out of limitations on the ownership of property, with due provision for the security of the interests involved."—The Irish state trials were begun in Dublin December 28, before Lord Chief Justice May and Justices Fitzgerald and Barry.

The Porte has communicated to the ambassadors a fresh note, regretting the warlike preparations of Greece, which are bringing trouble and uncertainty upon the peace of Europe. In order to terminate such a state of affairs, which is disastrous to both Turkey and Greece, the powers are invited to send instructions to their ambassadors at Constantinople for a European conference.

In the Spanish Chamber of Deputies, Janu-

ary 16, the Minister of Colonies announced that the pacification of Cuba was complete.

The Crown Prince Frederick William, speaking at an institution for invalids, January 16, condemned strongly the anti-Jewish movement.

DISASTERS.

December 12.—British steamer *Garnet*, of London, wrecked in the North Sea. Seventeen persons lost.

December 13.—Japanese coasting steamer foundered in the inland sea. Sixty-four lives lost.

December 30.—Report reached London of loss of British steamer *Montgomeryshire*, from Cardiff for Singapore, off the coast of Portugal, with crew of thirty persons.

January 3.—Dispatch to Lloyd's from Lisbon stating that the English steamer *Harelda*, from Palermo bound to London, ran into the Spanish steamer *Leon*, from Liverpool for Manila, twelve miles from Cape Roca. Both vessels sank. Nine Englishmen and fourteen Spaniards were landed at Lisbon. Nothing is known of the fate of the rest.

January 4.—Ten women and children burned to death by a fire in the rear tenement-house 35 Madison Street, New York.

January 5.—News reached London of the loss

of the British steamer *Farnley* off the Denmark coast. All hands supposed to have been lost.

January 7.—Thirteen persons burned to death in the Strafford County (New Hampshire) Poor-house.

January 15.—British ship *Leonore* run into and sunk off Hartlepool. Nine persons, including the captain, drowned.

January 16.—News of snow-slides in the Wahsatch Mountains, Utah. Eleven persons killed.

OBITUARY.

December 22.—In London, England, George Eliot (Mrs. Cross), the novelist, aged sixty years.

December 25.—In Berne, by his own hand, M. Anderwert, President-elect of the Swiss Confederation.

December 27.—In New York city, Rev. Dr. E. H. Chapin, aged sixty-six years.

December 30.—In Boston, Massachusetts, Epes Sargent, author, aged sixty-six years.

January 1.—In Paris, France, Louis Auguste Blanqui, the noted Communist, aged seventy-five years.

January 4.—In Wilmington, North Carolina, Right Rev. Thomas Atkinson, D.D., LL.D., Bishop of North Carolina, aged seventy-three years.

Editor's Drawer.

A GOOD story comes to us of the late General John C. Breckinridge, who, it is said, related it himself not long before his death. He was talking to some friends of his own career, and speaking of the many kindnesses he had received at the hands of his people, and the many compliments paid him by his admirers. He added that he had recently heard of a compliment paid him during the war by an old Kentucky farmer, which he believed he valued as much as any he ever received. It was the custom during the war, as indeed it has always been, for the country people to come into the county town on Saturday afternoon to hear and tell the news. At a meeting of this character, in some store in Richmond, Kentucky, just after the battle of Chickamauga, one of the gentlemen said that he had heard some news, and being bidden to tell it, said, "I did hear that thar has been a most powerful fight down in Tennessee, and they says that for a long time it went mighty agin our folks, but that then Mr. Brackinridge came forrard and asked the privilege of the field for just fifteen minutes, and they do say that he slew thirty thousand!"

Kentuckians are nothing, if not parliamentary.

A FRESH little anecdote of that most genial gentleman, Mr. William R. Travers, who had been speaking of the advantages of the Raquet

Court Club, of which he is the honored president. In response to several inquiries on the subject of the running track, from a party thinking of having his name put up for membership, Mr. Travers replied, generally, that while on account of its shortness and sharp angles it was *not* a particularly fast track, still it was "fair," and added, in conclusion, "Well, I w-will t-tell you *how f-f-fast* it is: t-t-t'other day I ran a h-h-half-mile q-q-*quicker* than I can t-t-tell you about it."

ALICK THOMPSON, of Virginia, tells a story illustrative of the peculiar vernacular of the people among whom he was born, and of their special capacity for giving evidence in a court of justice in a compact, accurate, and picturesque style. Some time ago he chanced to be visiting at a county seat in Virginia, and was courteously invited by the Commonwealth's attorney to come into the court-room on the following morning, with the assurance that a witness would testify in a murder case then pending. He entered the court-room, and speedily after his arrival a witness was called, who advanced to the stand with such a jaunty air of self-assurance, and who kissed the book with such loud-sounding confidence, that he was sure this must be "his man." His judgment was not incorrect.

"Mr. Williamson," asked the Commonwealth's attorney, "do you know anything

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The Three-per-Cent. Refunding Bill passed the House January 19, and the Senate February 18. The Senate amended it by making the bond a 5-20 instead of a 5-10.

President Hayes, February 1, sent a message to Congress sustaining in the main the findings of the Ponca Commission, and approving its recommendations. The President suggested that the general Indian policy for the future should embrace the following ideas: First, the Indians should be prepared for citizenship by giving to their young of both sexes that industrial and general education which is requisite to enable them to be self-supporting and capable of self-protection in civilized communities; second, lands should be allotted to the Indians in severalty, inalienable for a certain period; third, the Indians should have a fair compensation for their lands not required for individual allotments, the amount to be invested, with suitable safeguards, for their benefit; fourth, with these prerequisites secured, the Indians should be made citizens, and invested with the rights and charged with the responsibilities of citizenship.

The Senate, February 4, passed Mr. Morgan's concurrent resolution declaring that the President of the Senate is not invested by the Constitution of the United States with the right to count the votes of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, so as to determine what votes shall be received and counted, or what votes shall be rejected. An amendment was added declaring in effect that it is the duty of Congress to pass a law at once providing for the orderly counting of the electoral vote. The House concurred February 5.

On the 9th of February the electoral votes were counted by the Vice-President in the presence of both Houses, and Garfield and Arthur were declared elected President and Vice-President of the United States.

In the British House of Commons, January 24, Mr. Forster moved a bill for the protection of life and property in Ireland. The Home Rulers stubbornly resisted the first reading of

the bill during a continuous session of forty-one hours, at the end of which time the Speaker arbitrarily closed the debate, and the bill was read. Messrs. Parnell, Finnigan, and Dillon were suspended for obstruction, and were ejected from the House; twenty-seven Home Rulers who refused to vote were also suspended and removed.—The state trials of the Land Leaguers at Dublin ended, January 25, with the disagreement of the jury.

The Boers in South Africa defeated the British forces in two attacks, one on January 26 and the other February 8.

The Chilian army entered Lima, the capital of Peru, January 17, after a desperate battle, in which both sides lost heavily.

The Russians routed the Tekke Turcomans, and captured Geok-Tepe and Dengil-Tepe January 24. Over four thousand corpses of Tekkes were found inside the fortress.

The main outlines of the arrangement between Russia and China are that Russia shall restore all of Kuldja, reserving a small territory in the northwest of it. China will pay a substantial amount over and above the 5,000,000 rubles (less than \$4,000,000) stipulated by the treaty of Livadia for the expenses of Russia's military preparations.

DISASTERS.

January 19.—Terrific gale and snow-storm in Great Britain. Several vessels wrecked on the coasts, and many lives lost.

January 26.—Report reached London of the loss of a Singapore trading steamer. Twenty dead bodies recovered, and many others carried away by the current.

January 31.—Twelve fishing-smacks wrecked at Sables d'Olonne, Bay of Biscay. Forty-six men drowned.

February 4.—German ship *Bremen* wrecked near Lerwick, Shetland Islands. Thirteen of the crew drowned.

February 6.—Steam-ship *Bohemian*, from Boston for Liverpool, wrecked in Dunlough Bay, on the Irish coast. Thirty-five lives lost.

February 7.—Colliery explosion near Chell, Staffordshire, England. Seventeen men lost.

OBITUARY.

January 21.—In London, England, E. A. Sothorn, actor, aged fifty-four years.

January 22.—At Brussels, Eugene Joseph Verboeckhoven, artist, in his eighty-second year.

February 2.—In New York, Rev. Dr. E. A. Washburn, rector of Calvary Church, aged sixty-one years.

February 5.—In London, England, Thomas Carlyle, author, aged eighty-five years.

February 13.—At Hot Springs, Arkansas, Hon. Fernando Wood, of New York, in his sixty-ninth year.

enable them to utilize to the best advantage the food resources of whatever spot they may be in, and out of common and perhaps despised material to make a pretty, an appetizing, and a wholesome dish, is the problem which Mrs. Helen Campbell has solved in a little manual which she styles *The Easiest Way of Housekeeping and Cooking*.¹⁵ While going over much of the ground that Miss Parloa covers, common to all good receipt or cook books, Mrs. Campbell has aimed to make her suggestions and lessons available for any part of the country. She seeks to develop in young housekeepers a reliance on their own resources, and the ability to make much out of little, instead of remaining mere copyists, who can do nothing that is not prescribed, and who are helpless unless they can lay their hands on every delicacy and every convenience. The first part of her book treats of the situation and arrangement of the house, of ventilation, drainage, and water supply, of the daily routine of household work, of fires and lights and things to work with, of washing-day and cleaning house, and of food, condiments, and vegetables. The second part is devoted to marketing and cooking, and in connection with the last are given several hundred practical receipts, which are based neither on a parsimony that is niggardly nor a luxury that is extravagant.

¹⁵ *The Easiest Way of Housekeeping and Cooking*. Adapted to Domestic Use or Study in Classes. By HELEN CAMPBELL. 16mo, pp. 283. New York: Fords, Howard, and Hubbert.

It is impossible to speak of the novels of the month with anything like enthusiasm. With the exception of *The Glen of Silver Birches*,¹⁶ a bright and clever Irish story, by E. Owens Blackburne, and *Lenox Dare*,¹⁷ an equally clever tale, by Virginia F. Townsend, based on incidents that are not uncommon in American life, they are either exceedingly tame or exceedingly artificial. For the information of those of our readers to whom fiction is indispensable, and who are indifferent as to its quality, so that it be sweet and pure in its tone, we simply announce their titles, as follows, *Don John*,¹⁸ a new volume of the "No Name Series"; *The Leaden Casket*,¹⁹ by Mrs. A. W. Hunt; *Lost in a Great City*,²⁰ by Amanda M. Douglas; *The New Nobility*,²¹ by John W. Forney; *Ida Vane*,²² by Rev. Andrew Reed; and *The Wards of Plotinus*,²³ by Mrs. John Hunt.

¹⁶ *The Glen of Silver Birches*. A Novel. By E. OWENS BLACKBURNE. "Franklin Square Library." 4to, pp. 86. New York: Harper and Brothers.

¹⁷ *Lenox Dare*. By VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND. 12mo, pp. 451. Boston: Lee and Shepard.

¹⁸ *Don John*. "No Name Series." 16mo, pp. 331. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

¹⁹ *The Leaden Casket*. "Leisure Hour Series." 16mo, pp. 424. New York: Henry Holt and Co.

²⁰ *Lost in a Great City*. By AMANDA M. DOUGLAS. 12mo, pp. 468. Boston: Lee and Shepard.

²¹ *The New Nobility*. By JOHN W. FORNEY. 18mo, pp. 395. New York: D. Appleton and Co.

²² *Ida Vane*. A Tale of the Restoration. By Rev. ANDREW REED. 12mo, pp. 440. New York: Robert Carter and Brothers.

²³ *The Wards of Plotinus*. A Novel. By Mrs. JOHN HUNT. "Franklin Square Library." 4to, pp. 64. New York: Harper and Brothers.

Editor's Historical Record.

POLITICAL.

OUR Record is closed on the 23d of March. —The Forty-sixth Congress adjourned finally March 4.

The three per cent. Funding Bill passed the House March 2, and on the following day was vetoed by President Hayes. The Apportionment Bill fixing the number of Representatives at 319 passed the House March 3. The Senate, February 22, passed a bill repealing the tax on bank deposits, and also the House joint resolution appropriating \$30,000 for a monument to George Washington. The Japanese Indemnity Bill, directing the payment to the government of Japan of \$1,463,224, and \$248,000 as prize-money to the officers and crews of the United States ship *Wyoming* and steamer *Takiang*, or their legal representatives, passed the Senate March 3.

The appropriation bills were all passed before the close of the session. The River and Harbor Bill amounted to \$11,141,800, or \$3,000,000 more than was ever appropriated by any similar bill.

James A. Garfield and Chester A. Arthur were publicly inaugurated President and Vice-President of the United States March 4.

President Garfield in his inaugural address promised full and equal protection of the Constitution and the laws for the negro, advocated universal education as a safeguard of suffrage, and recommended such an adjustment of our monetary system "that the purchasing power of every coined dollar will be exactly equal to its debt-paying power in all the markets of the world." The national debt should be refunded at a lower rate of interest, without compelling the withdrawal of the National Bank notes, polygamy should be prohibited, and civil service regulated by law.

An extra session of the Senate was opened March 4. On the 5th, the following cabinet nominations were made and confirmed: Secretary of State, James G. Blaine, of Maine; Secretary of the Treasury, William Windom, of Minnesota; Secretary of the Navy, William H. Hunt, of Louisiana; Secretary of War, Robert T. Lincoln, of Illinois; Attorney-General, Wayne MacVeagh, of Pennsylvania; Postmaster-General, Thomas L. James, of New York; Secretary of the Interior, Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa.

The following United States Senators were elected or appointed during the month: John

I. Mitchell, Pennsylvania; James W. McDill, Iowa; Angus Cameron, Wisconsin; A. J. Edgerton, Minnesota; William P. Frye, Maine.

Alexander II., Emperor of Russia, was assassinated in St. Petersburg, March 13, as he was returning from a parade. Two bombs were thrown at him, the second of which inflicted terrible injuries, from which he died soon afterward. His eldest son succeeded to the throne, with the title of Alexander III.

The Irish Protection Bill passed the British House of Commons February 25, by a vote of 281 to 36.—The Irish Arms Bill passed the Commons March 11, and the House of Lords March 17. It prohibits the possession or carrying of arms except by license; permits the search of houses from sunrise to sunset, and empowers the authorities to prohibit and to regulate the importation and sale of arms, dynamite, and nitro-glycerine. The maximum penalty on summary conviction is three months imprisonment, without hard labor. The bill is to remain in force five years.—A number of arrests were made in Ireland under the Coercion Act.

The British forces were routed by the Boers February 27. General George P. Colley and many of his soldiers were killed. Subsequently an armistice was signed, and the Boers substantially accepted the British conditions of peace.

Levi P. Morton, of New York, was confirmed as Minister to France March 21.

DISASTERS.

February 19.—The village of Brevières, in the Department of Savoy, completely destroyed by avalanches. Fifteen persons killed.

February 27.—Fifteen children burned to death in the Catholic Orphanage, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

March 4.—Italian bark *Ajace* wrecked on Rockaway shoals. Fourteen sailors lost.—Coal mine explosion near Evanston, Wyoming. Thirty-five men killed.

March 5.—News of an earthquake on the Mediterranean island of Ischia. Half the town of Casamicciola destroyed, and one hundred and twenty-six of the inhabitants killed.

March 7.—News of the loss of nine vessels and one hundred lives off the Aberdeenshire coast in a storm.

OBITUARY.

February 24.—At Washington, D. C., Hon. Matthew H. Carpenter, United States Senator from Wisconsin, aged fifty-six years.

March 2.—News in London of death of M. Édouard Drouyn de Lhuys, the French statesman and diplomatist, aged seventy-five years.

March 9.—In Copenhagen, Queen Caroline, widow of King Christian VIII., aged eighty-five years.

March 15.—At Presidio, California, Brevet Major-General Emory Upton, U.S.A., author of *Infantry Tactics*, in his forty-second year.

Editor's Drawer.

THE Legislature of Maine has repeatedly, in years past, passed a law giving a bounty for bears killed, and as often repealed it. In 1874 (over \$2000 having been paid the previous year in bounties by the State) a bill was introduced for a repeal by a member from the shore, giving as a reason that hunters would kill them for the meat and pelts without the bounty. This brought up a member from the backwoods, who said: "The gentleman don't know what he is talking about. Most of the b'ars are killed when *coobs*, when meat and pelts are worthless."

"Then," said the gentleman from the shore, "let them grow till they are of value."

The country member replied: "I would like to ask the gentleman what them b'ars would live on while growing? I'll tell you, sir—on our sheep, and now and then a baby."

Bill for repeal did not pass.

SOME years ago a wealthy Senator of one of our Western States, happening to be in Boston, was invited to a dinner party at which were several gentlemen conspicuous in the literary as well as in the financial world. Among the former were Mr. Longfellow and Mr. Bancroft, and next to the latter our Senatorial friend

found himself seated at table. One of his statements relating to a historical occurrence was mildly objected to by Mr. B. (to whom, by-the-way, he had not been introduced). Our Senator quickly responded by saying, "I assure you, sir, that I am dead posted on that point." His quiet friend made no response, and our Senator was, of course, "heap gratified" at his victory. After the company had separated, he asked his host who the quiet friend was. "Oh, that was Mr. Bancroft, the historian," was the reply. Fancy!

IN Upper Georgia once there was an honest, plain, unlettered farmer who sometimes preached, or, as he said, "tried to preach." He was a hard-working man, and despised laziness. In the neighborhood, and a frequenter of the meeting-house where our farmer-preacher occasionally held forth, was a man named John Templin, who was noted for the quality that the preacher most contemned. The brethren had for the greater part of the time to support Templin's family, for which end he did not hesitate to solicit contributions for the necessities that very little exertion on his part would have secured. At one Saturday meeting, the minister being absent, our farmer-preacher