

*From the New-York Evening Post.*  
We have been shown the platina coins mentioned in the following communication. The dies are beautiful, and from the nature of the metal, must preserve the sharpness and distinctness of the impression longer than either gold or silver. The six rouble piece mentioned below, and estimated at the value of four dollars and sixty cents, is about the size of a cent. Platina being the most ponderous of all metals, the coins could not be counterfeited without the fraud being easily detected.

*For the Evening Post.*  
**The Metal Platina employed for a Mined Currency.**—This curious production is said to be heavier than gold. It was originally brought from South America, where the grains of which it consists were picked up in certain alluvial districts. But the quantity was small. Still it was considerable enough to be formed into mirrors for reflecting telescopes, crucibles, laboratory spoons, touch-hole for fire arms, evaporating vessels, pendulums, pyrometers, and measures of length. It had often been mentioned as a proper material for coin, but does not appear, until lately, to have been used for that purpose. It is now regularly issued from the mint; and while enterprising Spain, scientific France, and ingenious England, have omitted to make it a circulating medium, industrious Russia has taken the lead in the business. The following note from H. Warner, Esq. to Dr. Mitchell, contains valuable information on the subject.

"Dear Sir—I have the honor to enclose for you some specimens of the new Russian platina coin, which have been handed me for this purpose by our late Minister, the Hon. Mr. Middleton, just returned from St. Petersburg, and now in this city. They were intended expressly for you."

Platina is perhaps the most unchangeable and indestructible substance on the face of the globe. In the beginning, when the quantity was small, it was considered the most valuable of all metals; latterly, however, its price has considerably fallen. This is in consequence of its discovery in the Ural Mountains, whose chain, extending from the borders of the Frozen Ocean, terminates near the sources of the River Volga. From this source it has been obtained in sufficient quantity to be turned into coin.

The pieces are beautiful and exquisitely wrought. They have not the splendor of silver, nor the mild lustre of gold, but have a lustre somewhat between polished iron and tin. The impression of the die is very sharp and distinct, so that the execution is in very high style. On one side is the two headed spread eagle of Muscovy, with the globe in the left hand claw and the sceptre in the right, and small crowns on the heads; these are surmounted by a large imperial crown. The armorial bearings and other devices on the body and wings, bear examination with the magnifying glass. There are no letters on this side. On the reverse are explanations of the value, date, and occasion, but no head of an autocrat, emperor, or any other great person.

They are said to be issued by the government, and to be received at the treasury for taxes, imposts, rents, and all other dues. They are calculated in silver roubles. Now a silver rouble is worth seventy-seven cents of our money, so that a six rouble piece is worth four dollars and sixty-two cents, and consequently a 3 rouble piece half the money.

On the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, the week before the 13th Dec. the Meteor Engine, with a train of carriages travelling at night, with a pilot engine as usual, (which by mistake had got far ahead,) came in violent contact with a stone wagon crossing the road. The Meteor was advancing 20 miles per hour, and was within ten yards of the wagon before it was seen. The engineer immediately shut off the steam, and the guards of the different carriages applied the brakes to the wheels; but, before these operations could produce any effect, the engine came in contact with the wagon, and passed over it, crushing it completely down. The engine itself was thrown entirely off the rails, and ran partly down the embankment, but was there stopped by the persevering exertions of the engineer and the guards, all of whom behaved with the utmost courage and presence of mind. One of the wheels of the engine was broken to pieces, and the engine otherwise very seriously damaged by the concussion.

A Turin journal, of the 21st of November last, contains some account of the discovery of a new steam engine. The difficult problem of obtaining, by means of steam, a circular and continued motion, has, it is affirmed, been resolved by the mechanic Victor Sarti, of Bologna, in Italy. This assist, with the aid of Mr. Sprung, of Rome, he invented a steam engine, by which a rotary motion is immediately applied. The model of this immediately submitted to a scientific body in Turin, has been the most successful experiments of its power have been made in the presence of this body, and of the most distinguished philosophers of the city. "All those," says a Paris journal, in remarking on this invention, "who know the difficulty of substituting an immediate, continual, and uniform rotary motion, for the complicated means which are necessary to convert the retilinear alternate motion to a circular motion, will applaud the discovery, which Borgius, in his treatise on Mechanics applied to the Arts, has pronounced impossible."

**Extraordinary Mortality.**—The Winchester (Va.) Republican says: The records of Death's doings have seldom exhibited an instance of more desolating, exterminating havoc, in one family, than what we are about to mention. A few months since, Mr. John Taylor, a poor, hard-working man, with a family, rented a few acres of land of T. A. Tidball, Esq. one mile west of Winchester, and removed upon it. He had had twelve children, but the number was reduced by death to six. Within what period these had been taken from him, we did not hear, but presume it to have been within the last two or three years. The six remaining children were remarkably healthy and fine looking; the oldest twelve years old, the youngest nearly one. Thus they continued the solace of their poor parents, and the hope of their few declining years, until two weeks ago, when the infant was taken sick, and died in three days afterwards of scarlet fever. On the day before its death, Lester, a boy, six years old, was taken unwell, and in two days was a corpse. The two bodies were lying dead on Friday, the 14th, and a person was sent to the former residence of Mr. Taylor, at the Round Hill, to dig a grave for them, his deceased children having been buried. This duty was performed, and the burial was to take place on the day following. In the interim, the violent snow storm of the 15th occurred, which prevented all egress from the house, and the lifeless bodies were obliged to remain in it until the Monday following, when they were buried in a corner of the field adjoining. But the mournful scene was not to end here. On Tuesday, the 18th, Betsy Ann, aged ten years, who was well on the Friday previous, died; and on Thursday, the 20th, John, aged eight years, who, in the fullness of health, had seen his sister breathe her last, followed her to the eternal world. Margaret, two or three years old, now lies at the point of death; and Wilson, the only surviving son, aged about twelve, who has been extremely low, is in a fair way of recovery. Thus has death swept off ten, and perhaps eleven children, out of twelve—a degree of mortality which is rarely equalled in our country.

We have no institutions more flourishing than our prisons. It is but a few years since the State Prison at Auburn was erected, with 500 cells, and it is now full to overflowing; the number of inmates being 616. The number of prisoners at Sing Sing is 806. Total, 1422; showing an increase during the past year of 194; and this, notwithstanding 76 have been pardoned by the Executive. Provision has been made for the erection of 200 additional cells in the prison at Sing Sing, and even these, if we reason from the past, will scarcely suffice for another year. "It is evident," says Gov. Throop in his late Message, "that our prisons must be enlarged without delay." Of the prisoners at Sing Sing who have "entered" during the past year, one hundred and fourteen are from the city of New York, and yet the number of villains among us, is not perceptibly diminished!

The fact is, that this city has become a kind of catch-all for rogues and vagabonds from every part of the country, and indeed from many foreign countries; and although our law-mills are kept constantly in operation, the consumption is not greater than the supply. Far be it from us to libel the general character of our population, which is probably not surpassed in moral excellence by any city of equal magnitude on the globe. But at the same time, the facts above stated are undeniable and appalling.

*N. Y. Jour. of Commerce.*

**Reward of Ingenuity.**—We have several times noticed a machine for manufacturing wrought nails, invented by Mr. Reynolds, of Bristol, R. I. which has for some time been operated by a company in that place. Mr. Reynolds has brought this most valuable invention, (the labor of years, under every discouragement) to perfection, so that it will take from the rod, and deliver 200 wrought nails a minute, superior in every respect to the nails worked on the anvil. Though we regret this invention is to be removed from the State, we most cordially congratulate the indefatigable inventor, and his associates, upon the transfer of it, with the exclusive right, to purchasers in Philadelphia, for the sum of \$100,000. Its proprietors intend putting it into extensive operation, and we shall before long find a supply of wrought nails in the market, nearly as cheap as the cut nail.—*Proc. D. Adr.*

The new work of our gifted and celebrated countryman, Washington Irving, is calculated to afford lively pleasure to all readers. It is entitled "The Voyages and Discoveries of the Companions of Columbus." The narrative possesses all the fascination of his manner; all the interest of romance; and can hardly fail to be as popular as the venerable life of Columbus. Such a work, to come to our hands, was wanting from the same pen, to complete the series of the first adventures. Messrs. Carey & Co. of Philadelphia publish it soon in a handsome octavo volume.—*Phil. Nat. Gazette.*

**Junius.**—Mr. Swinder, near Leeds, has just published a book, to prove that Lord Chatham was Junius, and is said to have succeeded in binding Lord Chatham's brows with the authorship of these celebrated political letters.

FOREIGN.

FROM EUROPE.

*New-York, January 31.*—By the packet ship Sovereign, Captain Champlin, we have received London papers to the 19th ultimo. The prominent intelligence by this arrival, is the account of a revolution in Poland—for the particulars of which we refer to the annexed extracts:—

The following important article is from Bell's Weekly Messenger of the 19th—the latest paper.

"The foreign Intelligence of the week is of more importance than usual, inasmuch as it brings information of a great Revolution which has taken place in a part of Europe where the sun of freedom seemed to have set forever. We allude to the revolt of the Poles in the Russian provinces, the flight of the Archduke Constantine, and the establishment of a Provisional Government at Warsaw.

"In looking at Europe at the present moment, we cannot but perceive that the ground trembles and quakes in all quarters, and that a general and mighty convulsion is about to take place. Whilst the earthquake is felt from beneath, the burning lava begins to flow, and the stream takes that direction where it is least likely to meet with opposition or impediment. The disposition of France at this moment is evidently warlike, and under the pretext of defending herself, she is preparing to make aggression upon others. The present stock-jobbing ministers are indeed indisposed to war, but the proposition made by La Fayette in the Chamber of Deputies, on Tuesday last—"that in case Austria or Prussia should interfere in the affairs of Poland, it would be the duty of France to prohibit them," was received with loud acclamations."

The London Courier of the 18th says: We are happy to say that the accounts received at the Home Office for the last few days relative to the state of the country, are of a favorable nature.

A letter from London of the 17th, says, at Liverpool, on the 15th, the Cotton Market was dull, and prices looking down.

A letter from Stettin states, that the struggle at Warsaw was far more sanguinary than has been represented in the journals—that nine Russian generals and the principal officers of state, were put to death, and also a great number of the Russian soldiery were massacred.

It had been stated in a Brussels paper, as probable, that the crown of Belgium would be offered to the Prince of Saxe Coburg. The London Courier doubts the existence of such a probability.

Mr. Trevor was about introducing into Parliament a motion on the subject of Cobbett's Register: He said it contained a statement "calculated, at a period like the present, to create great excitement, and ought to be suppressed."

Parliament continues the discussion of retrenchment and remission of taxation.

We can state confidently, that up to the present moment, the news of the Polish insurrection has not produced any marked change in the tone and bearing of the Ministers of the three Powers relative to the affairs of Belgium.—*Court Journal.*

Pope Pius VIII. died of the gout in the stomach.

A letter from Berlin, in the Augsburg Gazette, in announcing the departure of Marshal Diebitsch from Berlin, observes, that as he will find the Russian Army that was offered for the assistance of Prussia ready for battle, the insurrection in Poland will, probably, be put down in three weeks. The writer adds—"Satisfactory as this prospect is, much confusion and mischief are to be expected."

Authentic accounts from Warsaw, dated December 4, announce that a new Provisional Government had been formed in that city, upon principles more hostile to Russia than those originally avowed. It is also stated that the most active measures were taken at Warsaw to enable the inhabitants to repel attack.

It has been remarked that the insurrection at Warsaw must be more extensive than has been thought, as it reached from Pole to Pole.

The Journal du Commerce says—"It is asserted that after a very animated discussion in the council of ministers, couriers were despatched to the French ambassador at Berlin, Vienna and London, with instructions to declare to the three powers, that in case Prussia or Austria should join Russia in endeavoring to reduce Poland to subjection, France would consider such intervention as a declaration of war."

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—Our State Gazette is silent upon the causes of the commotion which began in the military school at Warsaw. The following details are given by private accounts from Poland:—The pupils of the school, assembled at a dinner, thought proper to give toasts to several men distinguished in Polish history, and especially to the celebrated Kosciuszko, the last hero of independent Poland. Constantine, on being informed of it by spies, immediately ordered an inquiry to be made. The intention in the inquiry was to be made. The youths, made a report which was appointed by the Prince. Consequently, two principal officers were charged to make a second investigation. The Prince, being exasperated, then ordained, of his own authority, a

severe punishment to be inflicted upon the young men who had been so unfortunate as to incur his displeasure. A great number of them were sent to prison, with threats of a more severe punishment. This arbitrary proceeding exasperated the public mind.—The young men of the military school rose in a body to break the chains of their comrades, and take vengeance upon the oppressor of their country. Detachments of regiments of the Russian Guard, who, contrary to the provisions of the Constitution, form part of the garrison at Warsaw, were ordered to put down the rebellious pupils, whilst several companies of Polish troops took part with the latter. Thus the combat began. The insurgents having forced their way through the Russian troops, marched immediately towards the Belvedere, the residence of the Grand Duke Constantine, half a league from Warsaw. His officers fell under the blows of national vengeance, but Constantine made his escape by a back door. Several acts of cruelty seem to have preceded the last arbitrary proceeding of Constantine. Thus, a short time before, he ordered the knout to be applied to some merchants suspected of smuggling. Two General Officers having ventured to make remonstrances to him on the inexpediency of an intended change in the stations of the troops, were tried by court martial and shot. These facts are corroborated by several letters, in which they are represented as positive. It appears, however, that the explosion of the national resentment was not unexpected by Constantine, as the Princess Lowice, his consort, had left the Belvedere some days previously. Several letters add, that the inhabitants of the environs of Warsaw, on hearing of the first occurrences in the capital, collected in great numbers to hasten to the assistance of their fellow-countrymen. This event has produced a powerful sensation at Berlin. It is generally thought that it is not a revolt, but a revolution. A popular commotion is said to have broken out at Posen; but it is added, that it was put down by the armed force, composed in part of Silesian regiments cantoned in the environs. Great activity prevails in the War Department. Part of the guards are to march immediately for the Grand Duchy. Several regiments, on the way to the Rhine, have received counter orders, and are to proceed to the same destination.

The following is dated Warsaw, Dec. 4. "The subjunctive proclamation was issued by the Grand Duke Constantine previous to his departure:—

"I grant permission to the Polish troops who remained faithful near my person to the last moment to rejoin their comrades. I am setting out with the imperial troops to proceed to a distance from the capital, and I hope from Polish good faith that they will not be harassed in their movements to reach the empire. I likewise recommend all the establishments, property, and individuals to the protection of the Polish nation and place, them under a safe-guard the most sacred."

(Signed) CONSTANTINE.

"Upon the return of the Polish regiments to Warsaw, they were received by the whole capital with acclamations. No idea can be formed of the enthusiasm displayed on this occasion. The commotion has found the warmest sympathy among the people and the inhabitants of all classes. The people are taking arms in all directions to fly to the succor of Warsaw, as was the case in the French Departments as soon as the revolution at Paris was known."

*From a Private Letter.*  
WARSAW, Dec. 6.—Tranquility and security are, in appearance, perfectly restored, and the state of uncertainty will not be of long continuance. Our paper currency is immediately cashed if required, and the interest of the bonds due at Christmas is already paid. Count Thomas Lubinski is appointed Chief of the Police.

PRUSSIA.—It is stated that a revolution has commenced in Prussia. An insurrection, of which the details are not yet known, has undoubtedly taken place at Konigsburg. The King learned the revolt of Warsaw, and the disturbances at Konigsburg, perhaps at the same moment. 50,000 troops are marching on Luxemburg; an army advances towards Poland, (Posen,) and more troops are required in the ancient capital of the Kingdom!

*From the Atlas, 19th Dec.*  
We have received the Paris papers of Thursday. They contain a curious dramatic-political scene, which is said to have been acted at Milan. A conspiracy, on a grand scale, was organised in that city against the Austrian authorities. The conspirators were assembled in the pit of the theatre, and there, at a certain signal the insurrection was to have broken out. The bell rang, the curtain rose, and discovered the stage crowded with Austrian soldiers; their muskets pointed to the pit. Every door was similarly beset, and the astonished revolutionists were arrested to a man in the very scene of the conspiracy, and conducted to the fortress of Spielberg.

The New York Gazette, speaking of the highly interesting news of the day, makes the following observation:—

"The revolution in Poland and disturbed an ancient country will materially affect the ports on the Baltic, should there be been the source from which England,

derived her chief supply in seasons of scarcity, and the markets in these parts are almost entirely dependent on Poland for the supply of grain which they afterwards ship. We risk nothing in saying that Great Britain will feel more a privation of supplies of grain from the Baltic (should she need any from foreign countries,) than she would from any other part of the world."

*CHARLESTON, FEB. 7.*  
**Snow Storm.**—The uncommon spectacle of a Snow Storm, was witnessed yesterday, by the inhabitants of this city. The Snow commenced falling between 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning, and continued without intermission, until past 2 o'clock in the afternoon—by which time, the streets and houses were covered with a thick coat. The wind was at North East, but did not blow with much force. In the afternoon, there was a fall of rain, when the snow began to melt—and at sunset, much of it had disappeared. There has not been so great a fall of snow in this city for many years. For some time the snow fell very fast, and in uncommon large flakes. There were several attempts to start Sleighs, but as far as our observation extended, the hasty manner in which they were got up, admitted of but poor apologies for the stylish vehicles of more northern climes. In all parts of the town, the boys, grown as well as half grown, were pelting each other with snow balls.

*Courier.*  
MONTREAL, JAN. 20.—**The Weather.**—The cold this morning was very intense, the thermometer at sunrise being at 16 degrees below zero. The ice has now stopped opposite the town, and we expect to have a complete communication with all parts of the country in the course of a few days.—The traverse at Varennes is now formed, and contributes already to an increase of business, and the supply of country produce. The river is now very high, being about 8 or 10 feet over the wharf and improvements on the little island opposite the town. We are happy to say that they have suffered no injury by the moving of the ice, or the rise of the water.

**Earthquake.**—The Montreal Gazette of last Monday says—"Yesterday morning, about six o'clock, the very rare and unusual occurrence of an earthquake alarmed many of our good inhabitants. The shock was distinctly felt in all parts of the city, and tolerably smart. Many attribute this event to volcanic origin, and imagine that the appearance of an extinct volcano, which our mountain presents, proves that the cause is not far distant—others more inclined to the marvellous suppose that the comet now seen towards the morning in the N. N. E. has given this earth a blow with its fiery tail during one of its frisky movements."

*Philadelphia, Jan. 28.*—The river Delaware now forms a very imposing and animated spectacle,—the ice-chained waters slumbering on the shore, and the loud and brilliant expanse traversed in every direction by flying skaters and sliding pedestrians. We observed yesterday that large boats, laden with merchandise, were drawn round on the ice from wharf to wharf. The booths or tents which have been raised as far as the middle of the river, with their flags, add not a little to the novelty and interest of the vivid picture.—*Nat. Gazette.*

*From the Providence American, Jan. 25.*  
**The Mails.**—The Boston Mail arrived yesterday about 4 o'clock, in a two horse sleigh. The driver states that the roads are more obstructed than they were last Monday. He got through with extreme difficulty. At half past one he met at Hatches' (12 miles) the mail which left this for Boston, at seven in the morning. The mail stage for Newport, after getting a few miles yesterday, was compelled to return with the passengers. The driver continued the route on foot, with the mail bag. The Taunton stage was also obliged to return, after getting about a mile beyond Pawtucket. The driver proceeded with the mail on foot. The Western mail, for New London, got but three miles out of town, and returned. The Hartford Mail, due last Saturday, arrived in town yesterday morning at a quarter before 5. The carrier left Hartford Saturday morning at 8 o'clock. He was nearly ten hours in travelling yesterday on horseback from Cornell's, 17 miles from town—a sufficient evidence of the horrible condition of the roads.

It is stated in the New Bedford (Mass.) Mercury, that the oldest citizens do not recollect a snow storm of so long continuance or when so much snow has fallen; it is estimated there at 4 feet on a level. The storm in 1778 was perhaps equally severe. A letter from Utica, of the 21st ult. says, "This is the coldest day we have had. The Mercury is thirty degrees below zero."

*OPHELDEAS, (LOU.) JAN. 14.*—**Cold Weather.**—For twenty years past, there has not been so severe a winter as the present.—Three weeks of continued frost has probably never occurred in this part of the United States before. Accounts from the Parishes state that all the Orange trees are destroyed, as well as a vast quantity of Cane, the cutting of which was deferred rather until the frost set in. Great