

SECOND EDITION. THREE O'CLOCK P. M.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Tornado in Kentucky.

Bridge over the Chatahoochie Carried Away.

DISTURBANCE AT CLARKSVILLE BETWEEN THE WHITES AND BLACKS.

From Kentucky.

A tornado passed over the vicinity of Pulaski last night, which caused much damage. The bridge over the Chatahoochie, seven miles south of Atlanta, was carried away.

BY MAIL.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Mr. Raymond's Speech—The Destiny of the Republican Party—Conservation Sure to Prevail—Doings at the Department—Refurnishing the President's House—An Odd Character—The Multiple of Freedmen's Petitions—The Mexican Mission Settled—Christmas Now and Then—Operas and Levees.

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1865.

THE BREACH IN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

There is left to talk about since the adjournment of congress in a political line, the speech of Hon. Henry J. Raymond, which is counted great. The very emphatic difference of opinion between the representative from the 6th district of New York, and the representative from Lancaster (Mr. Stevens of Penn.) is widely commented upon, and the general verdict is, that things look better for the union than they did. The manifest destiny of the great republican party is, that out of it there will arise a conservative element, which must stand by in the support of the president, and perform a work of patriotism which shall enable it to all time. The wedge of fraternity must be driven deep to secure successful harmony, and there is no doubt but that under the guidance of the president, with such powerful endorsers as the past week have brought about, all the rights and privileges of the confederate states will accrue to them in just the same manner in which any other state of the union is benefited. The radicals in and out of Congress will fight against it. It is about the only fighting many of them have done, for the "boys in blue," as a general thing, don't discuss political measures; but justice and right are sure to prevail. Conservation—a word which Senator Wilson this week emphatically declared detestable—will prevail against radicalism.

QUIET AT THE DEPARTMENTS.

Several senators and representatives called at the president's house to-day, but there has been very little of anything inspiring worthy of note. Everything is quiet at the departments, which will not be opened after their close to-day until next Tuesday. The work of refurnishing the president's mansion will now commence. The sooner the better, for the appearance of things. I may be excused from mentioning that among the callers at the executive mansion was the noted Seth Kimmon, whose pleasure it has been to present presidents of the United States with buck-horn chairs and other articles of genuine savage manufacture. Seth seems to be something of a character around Washington. What his business at the White House was I cannot imagine, unless it was for the purpose of petitioning for a pardon on account of his hideous border ruffian style of dress, which was all very well as a novelty four years ago, but has become disgusting instead of respectable with age. Perhaps I do our aborigine friend injustice. He may have been disposed to make me presents, and wanted to know a measure for a chair. With this charitable view of the case, however, we dismiss him.

FREEDMEN'S AFFAIRS.

The multitude of petitioners who have already presented to congress their memorials in relation to the sacred rights which ought to be accorded to the freedman, will have their army increased when the session recommences. Mr. Sumner will have his hands full and hands; the slightest objection to being intrusted with all that claims rights of freedom, franchise, or anything else—provided their hue be sable—may be disposed to bring. Legislation on more important topics than the poor despised African is needed, however, and there are brains enough in both houses to perceive it. On these outside questions certain members are not expected to make lengthy dilations.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

The question of a minister to Mexico is about settled. Campbell will go where Logan wouldn't. Mr. Browning, who was the president's secretary some time, and is a personal friend of long standing, has had his commission several weeks, and will be an acceptable, intelligent and courteous representative of the United States government. He was not learned when these gentlemen will set out on their mission.

CHRISTMAS.

The Christmas season approaches, and as it draws near there is more life and merriment, more display of holiday goods and holiday attire than has been known since its last annual advent. The scene is very different to that of the year which is now with all the cares, and woes, and sorrows, which grow out of war that terminated within its period, fling gradually into the sombre shadows of the past. Then the wide streets of Washington were radiant with a show of military trappings and resounded with the tramp of a veteran multitude; all the paraphernalia of a night and sound were visible, and there were make the heart grow sad, indeed. All this is changed now, and along the great length of the city's avenues one sees nothing that betokens aught but pleasure, life and gaiety. The skeletons are in the back ground, and the maimed heroes of both sections are far away at their homes, knowing little and caring less for all the grandeur of the Christmas eve. To-day is clear and cold, and brilliant with its happy crowds who crowd

the long time vaulted magnificent distances of the capital. Miss Flora McFimney and Augustus Adolphus are making their annual purchases utterly regardless of prices or the governor's repeated assurances of "hard times." New styled bonnets, like miniature old fashioned buggy tops; tremendous hoops of the latest date, furs, capes, and various other articles of female wearing apparel, the names of which are not known in my vocabulary are in great requisition to-day, a semblance of the days of Auld Lang Syne is visible; not in fashions, but in the brightness and happy aspect of Christmas season.

THE DYING YEAR.

On Monday night the opera company of the great Maretzek will hold forth. The *Furor*—as the critics say—is immense. The president and secretaries will hold levees on New Year's Day, and as the eventful 1865 glides into the dark vale of eternity we may all hope that with it will be buried all the animosities and trials, criminations and recriminations of the sad gone by.

LOUISIANA.

Adjournment of the Legislature—Veto by the Governor—Fears of a Negro Revolt.

NEW ORLEANS, Friday, Dec. 22. The Louisiana legislature adjourned to-day, until the fourth Monday of January. The house failed to pass the usual appropriation-bills. The governor has vetoed the bill suspending the collection of taxes for 1861, '62, '63 and '64, on the ground that it would afford relief to those who had attempted to destroy the government, and who were absent from this city during the war, while the union men who remained paid taxes. The Vicksburg Journal has advised which it deems trustworthy, of an alarming character from Yazoo. The people of the country are reported to be flying to the towns for protection, and the negroes are represented to be arming themselves, who claim that between now and Christmas the land must be given them or they will take it by force. The colored troops stationed in the country are espousing the cause of the negroes, and serious trouble is apprehended.

COTTON STEADY.

Cotton steady; sales 3,000 bales; middlings 50c; sales of the week 11,750 bales; stock 156,000. New York checks 1/2 discount. Gold 147. Freight dull.

THE ONCHITA (Washita) river, at Monroe, rose eight feet in six days. A rise of six feet is reported at Camden, Arkansas. It is reported that a good deal of cotton is to come in from the west by that river.

Business is somewhat checked by the screw-

men's strikes, the owners of vessels and storekeepers refusing to accede to their demands for higher wages.

Removal of the Remains of President Lincoln.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22. The remains of President Lincoln were removed yesterday from the vault at Oak Ridge cemetery, Springfield, to the vault erected near the site of the proposed monument. The remains of his children were placed in the same vault. Captain Robert Lincoln and the directors of the National Monument Association were present at the removal.

COMMERCIAL.

New York Market.

By Mail, New York, Dec. 22. BREADSTUFFS.—The market for State and Western flour is active at steady rates. The sales are 7,500 bushels. We quote: Superfine State..... \$7 15 a 7 50 Extra State..... 7 15 a 7 50 Middling State..... 6 15 a 6 50 Extra round hoop Ohio..... 8 15 a 8 00 Gro. extra soft white..... 12 15 a 12 00 Extra St. Louis..... 11 75 a 15 25 Southern flour unchanged; the sales include 350 bushels of extra No. 1 to 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 for old plain Western; for extra Baltimore. Corn meal remains as last quoted. GRAIN.—The holders of wheat are firm in their views, with sales of 2,000 bushels at \$1.90 for Milwaukee club; \$2.42 for new common white Michigan, and \$2.45 for choice amber State. Oats are held at last quotations; sales are 1,000 bushels for unseasoned, and 600 for season. For corn there is less inquiry; sales are the same; sales of 25,000 bushels at 91c a 90c for unseasoned, and 96c a 97c for sound Western. COFFEE.—The market is quiet but steady. COTTON.—The transactions are light, as there is but little inquiry at our figures; we note the sales of 5,000 bales, as follows: Upland Florida Mobile N.O. & C. Good ordinary..... 48 48 48 48 Low middling..... 45 45 45 45 Middling..... 51 51 51 52 Gro. middling..... 53 53 53 54 MOLASSES.—There is some inquiry at unchanged rates. Sales were made of 25 bbls New Orleans at \$1.20 a 1 1/2. NAVAL STORES are quiet to-day at former prices. PROVISIONS.—The pork market is quiet but steady; Robert's extra No. 1 is at \$28 1/2 for 44 for 40 for cash and regular way, closing at \$27 1/2, and \$24 1/2 for prime mess. There is but little doing in beef; the sales include 600 bushels at \$1.14 for old plain Western; \$1.25 a 20 for new do.; \$1.14 a 17 for old extra mess, and \$2.24 for new do. Beef hams are in demand and selling, with notice, sales at \$22.25 a 24.50 for State and Western. Bacon sides are in fair demand for future delivery; sales of 650 boxes, mainly Cumberland and extra No. 1, at 15c a 16c for 15c for 15c for February. Cut meats are in moderate request at unchanged rates; we note sales of 200 packages at 13c a 14c for extra No. 1 to 1 1/2 for old plain Western; for shoulders in do. The market for city lard is firm; Western is unchanged, the sales include 700 lbs and 15 lbs in do. No. 1 to 1 1/2 for kettle rendered city, and 15 1/2 a 19 1/2 for Western. Also 2,500 lbs for January delivery, sellers' option, at 18c, and for February at 17 1/2. SUGAR.—Raw is dull and heavy; we quote fair to good refining at 11 1/4 a 12c. Refined is quiet and low; we note soft yellow at 13 1/4 a 13 3/4; soft white at 17 1/2 a 17 3/4, and crushed, powdered and granulated at 18 1/4. SALT.—The market is less active and not so firm; we note sales of 72,000 lbs at 13 3/4 a 14c, and 15,000 lbs stearine at 17c. WHISKEY is dull and nominal at \$2.28 a 2.30.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

ONCE MORE.—We are mortified at being again compelled to ask the indulgence of our patrons for the absence of our usual variety of local intelligence this morning. We hope to perfect arrangements to-day that will obviate the recurrence in the future of this appeal.

CHRISTMAS IS A GREAT TIME.

As Artemus Ward would say, it is a high old time. In the newspaper business it seems to be unusually heavy. A few recurrences of such seasons in rapid succession would be very apt to call for a general suspension of newspapers in this latitude. We don't know that we are worse off than anybody else; but if our neighbors are no better off than we are they are our sincere pity. One of our assistants received a family present, which it was our female proprietor; another went into the country and has not yet returned; while a third has not been officially heard from. In the mechanical department, since Monday, we have been working with less than half a force—such a fearful effect has the holiday had upon the employees.

Under these accumulated disadvantages the making of a newspaper is attended with considerable difficulty. However, we are in hopes of a revival to-day—not a revival of the holiday, which the saints prevent—but of the usual energies of our working staff in all its departments, when we hope to greet our readers with the customary variety, at least until another Christmas demoralizes the establishment.

MAYOR'S COURT, DECEMBER 26.—A colored man named Daniel Williamson, arrested on the corner of Front and Market streets, charged with drunkenness, was fined \$5 and released.

Another colored man, arrested at the corner of Front and Nun streets, charged with stealing brass from the fire companies, was remanded to the cell until witness appears.

Frank Smith, charged with creating a distur-

ance on Christmas day, was committed to the cell for the term of one week, to be fed on bread and water, and also made to pay a fine of \$10.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Arrival of the City of Washington.

New York, Dec. 27. The steamship City of Washington, from Liverpool on the 18th and Queenstown on the 14th, has arrived at this port.

Governor Eyre, of Jamaica, has been suspended from the exercise of his functions, pending official inquiry into his conduct.

In the trial of the Fenians, on the 12th, O'Donovan occupied the whole day in his own defence. He was insolent, and sought to exhaust the court. Piracy is increasing to an alarming extent in China.

It is reported that France has given England six months' notice to terminate existing treaty, because of the strict formality requisite before French offenders are given up.

LIVERPOOL MARKET.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 18. COTTON.—Sales for three days, including Wednesday, 37,000 bales, of which 13,000 were to speculators and exporters. Market strong, with an upward tendency. American id. dearer since Friday.

WHEAT is in limited demand.

CORN is flat, and in some instances 3d. lower.

PORK is quiet. No American stock on hand.

LARD is quiet.

PRODUCE quiet and unchanged.

Later. LONDON, Dec. 14.

The statement that Head Count Stephens was safe in Paris has been confirmed.

O'Donovan has been convicted of Fenianism, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. It has been stated that Gen. Grant is about to visit the Rio Grande. This is not true, as he will not extend his visit beyond New Orleans.

For the first time since the surrender of Lee's army, no pardon warrants have been issued by the attorney general to-day. Very few applications are now presented. The president is energetically engaged in disposing of all cases.

Gen. Taft was to-day received by the president as minister from Colombia.

Brazilian Emigration.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. Information from Brazil states that a party of American immigrants, mostly southerners, represented by Colonel Wood, have selected a site for a town near Rio Nora. It is there expected that there will be a flow of immigration from the late Confederate States.

The Steamship Idaho.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. The steamship Idaho, hence for Mobile, went ashore on Bargeat, and has filled with water. The crew and passengers were landed safely, the weather being favorable. Part of the cargo will be saved.

BY MAIL.

WASHINGTON.

THE REGULAR ARMY.

PRIVATEERS FITTING OUT.

Heavy Robbery of a Paymaster.

The Alabama Freedmen

GENERAL NEWS.

THE REGULAR ARMY.

In the contemplated reorganization of the regular army it is alleged that the colored troops will compose a large proportion of the same, and the respective regiments will be recruited up to the maximum number.

THE SUFFRAGE ACT IN CONGRESS.

The amended suffrage act for this district, as reported in the senate, providing that all male citizens of proper age, who can read the constitution of the United States, in the English language, and write their own names, shall vote, will undoubtedly become a law.

ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Assistant Secretary Chandler has been recognized by the president as acting secretary during the absence of Mr. McCulloch in New York.

PERSONAL.

General Fitz Henry Warren has been breveted Major General. He will not go to Guatemala, if at all, until after the close of the Iowa Legislature, before which he is a prominent candidate for United States senator, to fill the unexpired term of Secretary Harlan.

INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The receipts of the internal revenue bureau, reported to day, will amount to \$1,300,000.

NO ASIATIC CHOLERA AT SOUTHAMPTON.

The state department has received a communication from Mr. John Britton, our consul at Southampton, England, dated December 1, 1865, stating that, having seen in New York papers an account of the existence of the cholera at that place, he desired to say that although there had been a few cases of English cholera, resulting from the too free use of bad fruit and vegetables, there had not been a single case of Asiatic cholera in the town. The London Times, he thinks, with its usual fertile imagination, was the primary cause of these reports.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

The following decision from the paymaster general's office is important to those presenting claims for back pay. The decision of the second comptroller recently made, giving pay to a brigadier general from date of commission, on the ground that serving and fighting in that grade from such date was virtual acceptance, does not apply to regimental or company officers. These latter are entitled only from actual muster in by a competent officer—being regarded as commissioned, taking rank and having pay only from muster in.

SALES OF LAND.

The number of acres entered for actual home-stead settlement, with agricultural college scrip and bounty land warrants, as ascertained from the department of the interior, is as follows: At

Brownsville, Nebraska, 15,188 acres; at Denver, Colorado, 7,256 acres, and at Roseburg, Oregon, 2,080 acres, besides cash sales amounting to \$1,736 76.

AGRICULTURAL BUREAU.

Hon. Isaac Newton, commissioner of agriculture, is supplying all the southern members of congress with seeds, and also furnishing his report for distribution throughout the southern states.

RECEIPTS FROM CUSTOMS.

The receipts from customs at the following ports for the month of November last, are: Boston, \$1,554,408 52; New York, \$9,935,922 94; Philadelphia, \$486,512 63; Baltimore, \$272,062.

LETTERS FROM EUROPE.

It is reported that information has been received here of the fitting out of one, and probably two, Chilean privateers at New York.

THE FREEDMEN IN ALABAMA.

The Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau has received a report from the surgeon in charge of the Department of Alabama, in which he represents that the freedmen in his command conduct themselves in such a manner as to win encomiums from their late masters, and that the free labor system is approved by the most ardent supporters of the late slave oligarchy. The health of the freedmen, on account of the prevalence of the small-pox, is very indifferent, there having been, during last month, no less than 723 patients under medical treatment, which number 87 died and 254 yet remain under medical advice.

The total number of freedmen dependent upon the charity of the state or the government for support is 1,860, a majority of whom are old and decrepit, and the remainder prostrated by disease. The surgeon says that on account of the fearful ravages of the small-pox in that State, the annual authorities of Mobile and Selma have established pest-houses for the support of freedmen inflicted with that terrible contagion.

HEAVY ROBBERY.

A paymaster of the United States army went into a bank in this city to-day with \$16,000, which he laid on the counter and turned round for the purpose of writing a check. His clerk entered at the time, and likewise placed on the counter a package of \$10,000, and then engaged in conversation with a friend. Whilst the paymaster and his clerk were thus engaged some party in the crowd stole the \$15,000 package, with which he made his escape unnoticed.

SUNDAY ITEMS.

There is reason to believe that several Mexican privateers, carrying formidable armaments, will shortly sail from certain ports on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, to prey on French commerce.

Most of the members elect to congress from the south left here to-day for their homes. They could not stand the terrific charges of the hotel and boarding-house keepers. Nearly all the northern members have also left Washington.

The Indian bureau will ask congress for another appropriation of six hundred thousand dollars, for the subsistence of the indigent Indians in Southern Kansas and the Indian territory.

Three hundred and twenty-three Virginians received pardons from the president during the past week. There are no noted names among them.

It is believed at the freedmen's bureau that at least two hundred thousand freedmen will be made to make us rich.

It is said that orders have been issued by the government for the arrest of several of the late officials of the rebel government, but upon what specific charges has not transpired.

A delegation of Mississippians, appointed by the state Legislature to solicit the pardon of Jefferson Davis, on Thursday, waited on the president.

General Grant is in favor of reducing the number of idle generals.

The recent order mustering out troops discharged 30,000.

The war department is said to intend the discontinuance of some of the military departments into which the country is now divided.

Thanksgiving Dinner at Paris.

It has already been announced that the Americans in Paris celebrated our national thanksgiving day by a magnificent dinner at the Grand Hotel. Among the guests were Mr. Bigelow, the American minister, and Major General Schofield. Mr. Bishop, in response to a toast, said: "If I were disposed, therefore, I could tell you no secrets; for you can judge as well as I what is the logical necessity of our position as a nation, inspired by the great principle to which I have alluded—and which is neither more nor less than the doing to other nations as we would have other nations do to us—must in almost any imaginable contingency require, in case they have studied the measure and conduct of our present chief magistrate can entertain a reasonable doubt that this principle has been and will continue to be his faithful guide. [Applause.] By its light all nations can distinctly see the shortest routes which lead to the friendship or to the enmity of the United States. By its light they can see that if they wish to banish war, in case they wish to make us such—[cheers]—for our policy is logically and inevitably peace and friendship with all the world; and it is one of the blessed convictions for which I have desired to unite with you in giving thanks this day that our country has now every reasonable prospect of enjoying a term of peace with all the world to which no living statesman can presume to fix a limit. [Cheers.] I learn from the lips of the distinguished soldier, whose achievements will fill some of the most thrilling pages in the annals of our country, and whose presence with us to-night lends a special grace to this charming festival—[cheers]—that within the past six months our country has paid off and restored to civil life an army of eight hundred thousand men. No stronger proof of its peaceful disposition could be given. From the same source I also learn that it has also reserved a force of two hundred thousand veteran troops—the remains of the largest, and I presume, most formidable army ever mustered into service—which are sufficient to show that its future policy cannot be influenced in the slightest degree by a sense of weakness. [Cheers.] As a political power, therefore, we have attained to that happy equilibrium of forces which enables us to do precisely what the aggregate wisdom and conscience of the nation shall prescribe—nothing more and nothing less. [Renewed cheers.] It is difficult to imagine for a state a more desirable condition, nor let me add, one that carries with it greater responsibilities for wise economy of its influence upon the rest of the world. [Continued cheering.] I ask your pardon, Mr. Chairman, for dwelling upon so grave a theme so long on a purely festive occasion, and when there are so many around you competent to give you more so many an entertainment. Permit me, however, before taking my seat, to assure you and the committee how highly I appreciate the honor of being their guest this evening, and beg you all to accept this public expression of my most cordial thanks. [Applause.]

The subjoined is a portion of General Grant's official report:

THE FAILURE TO CAPTURE PETERSBURG.

After the crossing had commenced I proceeded by a steamer to Bermuda Hundred, to give the necessary orders for the immediate capture of Petersburg.

The instructions to General Butler were verbal, and were for him to send General Smith immediately, that night, with all the troops he could give him, without sacrificing the position he then held. I told him I would return at once to the army of the Potomac, hasten its crossing, and throw it forward to Petersburg by divisions as rapidly as it could be done; that we could reinforce our armies more rapidly there than the enemy could bring troops against us.

General Smith got off as directed, and confronted the enemy's pickets at Petersburg before daylight next morning, but for some reason that I have not been able to satisfactorily understand, did not get ready to assault his main lines until near sundown. Then, with a part of his command only, he made the assault, and carried the lines northeast of Petersburg from the Appomattox river, for a distance of over two and a half miles, capturing fifteen pieces of artillery and three hundred prisoners. This was about P. M. Between the line thus captured and Petersburg there were no other works, and there was no evidence that the enemy had reinforced Petersburg with a single brigade from any source. The night was clear—the moon shining brightly—and favorable to further operations. General Hancock, with two divisions of the Second corps, reached General Smith just after dark, and offered the service of these troops as he (Smith) might wish, waiving rank to the last named commander, who he naturally supposed knew best the position of affairs, and what to do with the troops. But instead of taking these troops, and pushing on at once into Petersburg, he requested General Hancock to relieve a part of his line in the captured works, which was done before midnight.

By the time I arrived the next morning the enemy was in full force.

Lynch Law in Arkansas.

Recently an outrage was committed by a negro named Kit on two children of Mr. Hodgins, near Eldorado, Arkansas. Shortly after the outrage was committed, four colored men, stimulated by a proffered reward of \$1,000, started after Kit, and found him working a farm about fifty miles away. He admitted to the fact that he had done the heinous deed, but stated as an excuse that he did it in revenge. On being brought back he was at once executed by lynch law.

Southern Members of Congress.

A Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says:

A caucus of the southern members of congress elect was held here Wednesday night, when

they determined to return to their respective homes, to meet again in the city on the 4th of March next. The impression among them seemed to be that their chance for immediate admission were not such as would warrant them in remaining here longer. None of the Tennessee delegation were present, and the Virginia delegation did not consider themselves part of the caucus, or bound by its action, or responsible for its sentiments. Most of the Pennsylvania members of Congress left this evening for their homes, to be absent during the holidays.

The Southern Presbyterian Church.

The southern presbyterian assembly is now in session at Macon. During the month of December, 1861, commissioners appointed from all the presbyteries—old school—in the insurgent states assembled at Augusta, and proceeded to constitute a "general assembly of the Presbyterian church in the Confederate States of America." The old constitution, including the Westminster confession of faith, was retained, the only change made being the substitution of the word "confederate" for "united." Though the body now in session at Macon will, of course, reinstate the word "united" in their constitution, there appears thus far in the proceedings no disposition to return to the church. Among other documents brought before the assembly was an overture from the synod of Nashville, "accepting our ecclesiastical separation as final, and interpreting it as the will of God for our own good." After the lapse of a few years, when the rancor and heart burnings begotten by the war have been allayed, a reunion will doubtless be consummated between the branches of this large body, already now agreeing in every essential particular. In perusing the minutes of the Macon assembly, we learn that much of the endowment of the union theological seminary, in Virginia, was lost in the "wreck of stocks." Some ninety thousand dollars of state stocks held will, however, eventually yield an interest. The faculty of the institutional reformers and collectors of South Carolina, Alabama, Florida and Georgia, will be held at Atlanta, on the 20th instant, to regulate a system of assessments and the collection of taxes.

From Georgia.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21. The steamships Hunter, Nevada and Enterprise have arrived, with Savannah advices of December 17. The Herald says a number of interested men were engaged in the city of Savannah, Georgia, on the 20th instant, to regulate a system of assessments and the collection of taxes.

The general assembly of the Presbyterian church south convened at Macon, Dec. 15.

It is reported that a serious difficulty has occurred between the whites and blacks in Emanuel county, Ga., but no particulars had reached Savannah.

The proclaiming of martial law at Thomasville arose from several unprovoked attacks upon the negroes by the city marshal, Atkinson, he inflicting wounds upon one man with a hatchet, on account of the previous arrest of one of the laborers on charge of being engaged in the recently developed great cotton swindle.

The mayor recommended the proclamation of martial law, he being unable to repress the lawlessness of many of the leading citizens.

The steamer Falcon has been seized at Savannah, by Gen. Brannan, owing to the refusal of her owners to allow the troops to be transported in her from Augusta.

Freedmen's Affairs.

General O. O. Howard this morning promulgated the following circular:

WAR DEPARTMENT, FREEDMEN AND ABANDONED LANDS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22, 1865.

Circular No. 22.

The attention of assistant commissioners is called to the report of the lieutenant general, dated December 18, 1865. The most thorough inspection will at once be made, and the evils complained of corrected. No order from the war department makes the bureau "independent of the military establishment," and agents should be furnished with complete instructions, according to the orders and circulars issued from this branch of the war department.

Any agent or officer who presumes to act contrary to such instructions will be forthwith removed or reported to the department commander for trial by court-martial.