

1881

Riverton Journal.

[Entered at the Post Office, at Riverton, N. J., as Second-class Matter.]

Vol. 1. No. 3.

RIVERTON, N. J., JANUARY 13, 1881.

50 Cts. per Annum.

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GENERAL GRANT AND OURSELVES.

It is pleasant to be in good company, and it is more than pleasant to be assured that your vocation is among the most honorable, enlightened and efficient in the world. It is easy enough to think highly of one's self; but the flattery of others is more to the purpose. It is said that we editors make more pretence with we-getism, than can be made with e-gotism. If it be so, who is to blame? Among others, notably, recently, and flagrantly, Ex-President Grant. The Press Club of New York invited him to dinner, and incited and instigated him to make a speech. The great "silent man" has found his tongue since he left the White House. Perhaps he left it on the porch, when he entered, being sensible that so much tongue would find the way there while he had anything to give, that his own might be allowed a rest. On coming out he took it up again, and has wagged it literally going round the globe, through all the degrees of longitude. Perhaps that circumstance has given it length. It certainly has given it meaning, for when it strikes it makes no uncertain sound. It gives out a good tone, every time.

These remarks are not to be considered political. Nor are they interested. They say, and of course they know, that the ex-general and ex-president, is going to out-Scott, ex-president Scott, and be president of a railway in Mexico. If this be so, as the distinguished gentleman is a reader of the Journal, (or will be for we shall send him a copy, marked) he may consider this an open letter, advising him that we will not accept an appointment as conductor, ticket agent, stoker, brakeman, or any other small thing, on any railroad which runs through the country of the "greasers." Of course all the good things in such an enterprise are foregone conclusions, making better time to the pocket switches of those who concerned, than the trains will make when the road is completed. But if this is not so, and the presidency of the railroad is a no such thing, all this goes for nothing, as far as General Grant is concerned. It goes for something to us however, for it has helped us through the leading article. And that is what we editors mainly aim at. There is a saying about some great man, that he wrote, "no line which dying he could wish to blot." Editors are ahead of that shining example. They write "no line which living they could wish to blot." It were a waste of time, and of brains too, if brains were supposed to have anything to do with editorial writing.

To return to that dinner. Our theme is General Grant and ourselves. He "confesses to a little embarrassment." So do we. He says the journalists are diffident. So they are. That they are characteristically modest. True again. Outside of the press he says people have all mistaken their profession. Most certainly. And by inference the members of the press are the right men, not only for their own, but for all places. They are capable, the young-

est of them, of advising all persons in civil, military and official life; and able to manage in their far away sanctums, the army in the field, and the nation in politics. Well said. Three cheers for General Grant!

He said moreover that the gentlemen of the press are ready "to take with perfect confidence any office that might be tendered them." Now there is where the general and ourselves are at odds. Perhaps, if he were still in the White House, and said this, we might lobby the Senate and besiege the Executive Mansion. For the General admits that in such case "the offices would be well and properly filled." As to Mexico, we said enough of that.

P. S.—The Riverton Yacht Club House is not in use at this season. We may venture to offer the occupation of it to Grant & Co., during the winter, rent free, for the principal office of the Mexican Railway, or the Darien Canal, or any other enterprise, provided we may have the key to the company's telegraph cipher. Some "points" might be made in Third street and Wall street; and the Riverton Yacht Club House would answer as well as any other centre. Riverton is a growing place, especially since the Journal started, though its present products are snow and ice and slop. And these are circumstances beyond the control, even of the newspapers. But, if we cannot alter things, we can adapt ourselves to them.

[Correspondence.]
OUR LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, December 24, 1880.

You will no doubt be looking for the usual Christmas letter from me, and perhaps looking in the newspaper for it, in which it has always been published. I selected that newspaper because at that time it was one of the best, if not the best published in the United States, and because I always like to have the best of anything that is going, as any of you will know who have ever seen me at a dinner or supper. Since the "Riverton Journal" has been started and taken its place at once amongst the leading journals of the world, I naturally transfer my patronage to it, as being the paper most likely to promote my own interests, for if you know, like all old soldiers, that is the first thing we look after. Well I don't think there is much to say to you this Christmas that will be very interesting. Everything has gone on as usual, more so, if anything. Some great discoveries have been made by the wise men of England, that are perhaps worth mentioning. One is that, it is possible by means of wires and electricity to announce to the firemen that they are wanted in a certain locality; another is that, it is possible by means of boxes, arranged like pigeon boxes, with glass fronts placed in post offices, to put in them letters intended for the persons who own the boxes. But the greatest discovery of all, and one that is causing a great excitement here, is that anthracite coal will burn, and that as one very wise man said lately in a lecture delivered before the Social Science Congress, it is not

impossible that some of us may live to see the day when anthracite coal will be used for fuel.

All these things made me feel so hopeful and young that I determined to make a journey to Stockholm, to visit the tomb of my old commander, Gustavus Adolphus. I found his coffin in a very good state of preservation, at least the stone sarcophagus containing it was, and all around him kings, queens, and no doubt jacks enough to start up half a dozen kingdoms. There were hundreds of the old kettle drums piled up around his simple tomb, that told the story of a hundred battle fields, on which he and I distinguished ourselves, but no one seemed to recognize me, and my stay was therefore short. How differently I felt when standing beside his monument to what I felt when lately standing beside that of the late Louis Napoleon at Chislehurst, on whose costly marble coffin you read the letters R. I. P. which some people are wicked enough to read without the marks of punctuation.

I called on my way home on my old friend Kriss Kringle, and found him very busy, expecting a great Christmas in America, and getting a promise from him to call in London, at the top of my chimney, for this 24th of December, I bade him good-bye. He said I hear there is what you call a "boom" in the United States, they shall know that Kriss Kringle shall have already also vat you call a boom. He is as you know of German parentage, which accounts for his way of expressing himself. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas I remain yours, &c.

THE TERRORS OF FROZEN AIR.

The Salt Lake Tribune thus refers to an atmospherical phenomenon (something similar to which was observed in the vicinity of this city New Year's morning) recently experienced in that city. It says:—

The old terror of White Pine flared its mantle in the air of Salt Lake City yesterday. People said there was a fog, and that they could not understand, in so calm and cheerful a day, why the cold seemed so penetrating. The fog was nothing but ice floating in the air. The Shoshone Indians in Nevada, call this floating ice pogonip, and when it appears they will not leave their "wickiups" until it goes away. There is good reason for it. A person out of doors necessarily breathes into the lungs air which is charged with infinitesimal particles of ice. Naturally congestion or inflammation is liable to succeed, and the bigger and stronger the lungs, of course the greater is the lung surface exposed and the more serious is the hold which the disease takes. Too much care cannot be used in facing a real pogonip.

"I'll teach you to lie, and steal, and smoke, and use profane language," said an irate Galveston parent to his eldest off-spring, at the same time swinging a good sized sapling: "I'll teach you, you young scamp!" "Never mind, father; I know all them branches already."

RIVERTON JOURNAL.

January 15th, 1881.

The Journal is published monthly at Riverton, Burlington Co., N. J. by A. A. FRASER, JOHN S. BROWN, E. H. EARNSHAW, E. PRIESTLEY.

Single subscription 50 cents per annum, payable in advance.

Advertisements inserted at reasonable rates.

The New Year entered in upon us while our journalistic staff was recuperating from the arduous duties attending the issue of our holiday number, and as the date of our publication has now been immutably fixed as the middle of the month, we were unable to wish our patrons a "happy and prosperous New Year," but believing that it is better late than never, we now do so most heartily, and also wish them "many happy returns."

We have learned that the post-office here is not paying, and has not been for over a year, the reason is obvious; owing to the fact that people mail letters in Philadelphia, who should mail them here, the business of our office is greatly reduced.

The post-master receives a certain commission on each letter stamped by him, and consequently the fewer letters, the less his receipts. In former times, a certain amount was allowed on each stamp sold, but this custom has been abolished, and the most that a man can make at a small office like ours, and especially if it is not well patronized, is the merest trifle towards his living expenses.

People seldom think of these things, and it is probable that they never knew about the pay, &c., connected with post office business, if we have enlightened them, well and good, for such has been our endeavor. So in future, Rivertonians, mail your letters at the office here, drop them in the station letter box, they will be well taken care of, and sent away promptly.

The *Moorestown Chronicle* presents quite a fine appearance since its enlargement.

We have received through a subscriber, a copy of the "Beverly Weekly Visitor," and on examination find it most interesting sheet filled with useful information, and well selected literature.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD
LOCAL TIME TABLE.

Trains leave Riverton for Philadelphia, at 6.50, 7.31, 8.15, 8.57, 11.06, A. M. 2.08, 3.44, 5.08, 6.08, 6.55, 10.14 and 11.50 P. M.

Trains leave Riverton for Burlington at 2.55 and 10.40 P. M., for Bordentown at 4.57, 8.23 and 11.54 P. M. For Trenton connecting with Express trains for New York at 7.58, 11 A. M., 12.53, 2.25, 3.58, 5.44, 7.04 P. M.

For New York via Monmouth Junction at 7.46 A. M., 2.55 P. M.

Sunday Trains leave Riverton for Philadelphia at 8.53 A. M., 12.50 and 3.18 P. M. Leave Riverton for Burlington at 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. For Trenton connecting for New York at 6.31 P. M.

LOCAL ITEMS.

The snow ploughs have rendered efficient service these past few weeks, thanks to Louis Corner.

Geo. Humes who was so seriously injured by the bursting of a water back at Dr. Hall's residence, New Years day, is reported to be out of danger.

Building operations have been suspended for some time owing to the heavy snow falls, and the intensely cold weather.

The sloop *Addie C. Homer*, of Palmyra, is fast in the ice at the Riverton pier.

Sleighs are in demand here, it would pay some one to keep several good ones on hand for hire, as the sleighing promises to be excellent for some time to come.

A meeting of the Cinnamonson Building and Loan Association was held at the school house, Riverton, on Monday evening January 10th, after completing the usual order of business the meeting adjourned at 9.24.

Mr. James Brown, after repeated efforts, has succeeded in finding a purchaser for his grocery business in Mr. Howard Thomas, who proposes carrying on the business hereafter. Mr. Brown intends removing to Merchantville where he will be engaged exclusively in the manufacture of hosiery.

Morris Steedle who has been trying to establish an express between here and Philadelphia, has abandoned the idea for the present, as people are not disposed to transfer their patronage from old stand byes, to new comers. An express conducted on Mr. Steedle's plan, would no doubt be a great convenience.

The Christmas Festival of the Sunday School of the Presbyterian Church, was held in the church on Thursday Evening December 30th. A Christmas tree was very tastefully decorated and illuminated with tapers, adding much to the beauty of the sugar-plums and other good things which were distributed ad libitum.

On New Year's day the Riverton Social Gun and Rifle Club had quite an extensive pigeon match. Three prizes were shot for, and were won by Messrs. Dando, Roup, and J. Burrows. Mr. Dando also won the second match for the president's cup, it is now necessary for him to win one more, in order to carry off that prize.

The regular club matches will be held hereafter on the first Saturday of each month; and matches for sweepstakes on every third Saturday.

On Monday morning last, considerable damage was done at the residence of Thomas Walnut, Esq., on Lippincott avenue, by the overflowing of the tank pan, caused by a clog in the waste water pipe. Owing to the heavy rain of Sunday night, the tank had become full, and its joints being somewhat shrunk, the water flowed through them filling the pan underneath to overflowing. The water soaked through the floor, and caused the ceiling below to fall, it even penetrated to the first floor, but did little harm there. The impediment in the pipe was soon removed, and the water remaining in the pan carried off to its proper destination.

CHRIST CHURCH SUNDAY
SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

The 30th Annual Festival of Christ Church Sunday School, was held as expected on the afternoon of the 28th ult. Exercises were opened with a prayer by the pastor, after which was sung Carol No. 1, "Merry Christmas bells are ringing," others followed, including one by the infant school "The Saviour of this Sinful World," until that part of the programme was reached entitled "Report of Superintendent."

This report was an account of the workings of the school for the past year, giving the average attendance, amount of money received and expended for missionary purposes, and various other matters of interest. We would say in connection with missions, that not a penny of the children's money goes towards defraying any expenses incident to the maintenance of the school.

Two more carols were sung, followed by the "Address by the Rector," which was interesting as well as instructive, and no one could fail to learn from it many good lessons.

Next came one of the most prominent features of the afternoon namely, distribution of Christmas gifts to the children. The presents consisting principally of books, were very beautiful, and each child received one, together with two Christmas cards, refreshments of various kinds were passed around among the audience. After singing two carols, and the Gloria Patri, the Benediction was pronounced, and festivities were at an end.

The whole affair was most enjoyable, and will be long remembered by those who participated in it.

RIVERTON BASE BALL CLUB.

The Annual Meeting of the Riverton Base Ball Club was held at the residence of Mr. Stephen Flanagan, 1507 Arch street, Philadelphia, on the evening of January 12th. The meeting was called to order at about 8.30, and was protracted till near midnight. The new constitution which was adopted, provides, among other things, that the committees on grounds, base ball and cricket, be done away with, and that a board of five directors be substituted in their place.

Mr. John C. W. Frishmuth was then elected president; F. Perot Ogden, vice-president; Walter P. Fell, treasurer and Charles L. Flanagan, secretary. The following gentlemen were then elected directors, H. H. Ellison, Charles L. Flanagan, Walter P. Fell, John K. Boyer and Chas. Williams. Afterwards Walter G. Wilson raised the point of order that Messrs. Flanagan and Fell being respectively secretary and treasurer were ineligible to the directorship. The chairman decided the point well taken; an appeal was made and the club sustained the decision of the chair. Mr. Flanagan then resigned the secretaryship, and was re-elected a director. Alfred Earnshaw was then elected a director in place of Mr. Fell, who had departed previous to the discussion. Walter S. Spackman was appointed secretary in place of Chas. L. Flanagan, resigned. The meeting then, after dispensing with the initiation fee of five dollars, and raising the annual dues from seven to ten dollars. Adjourned.

There is much dissatisfaction expressed with the ruling of the chair, in regard to the ineligibility of Messrs. Flanagan and Fell, though no personal feeling is involved.

ANECDOTE OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

The queen was not twenty years old when she ascended the throne. Coming into possession of power with a heart fresh, tender and pure, and with all her instincts inclined to mercy, we may be sure that she found many things that tried her strength of resolution to the utmost.

On a bright, beautiful morning, the young queen was waited upon at her place at Windsor by the Duke of Wellington, who had brought from London various papers requiring her signature to make them operative. One of them was a sentence of court-martial pronounced against a soldier of the line—the sentence that he be shot dead. The queen looked upon the wondrous beauties that nature had spread to her view.

"What has this man done?" she asked.

The Duke looked at the paper, and replied:

"Ah, my royal mistress, that man, I fear is incorrigible. He has deserted three times."

"And you cannot say anything in his behalf my Lord?"

Wellington shook his head.

"Oh! think again, I pray you!" Seeing that her majesty was so deeply moved, and feeling sure she would not have the man shot in any event, he finally confessed that the man was brave and gallant, and really a very good soldier.

"But," he added, "think of the influence!"

"Influence!" the queen cried, her eyes flashing, and her bosom heaving with strong emotion. "Let it be ours to wield influence. I will try mercy in this man's case, and I charge you, your grace, to let me know the result. A good soldier, you said. Oh, I thank you for that! And you may tell him that your good word saved him."

Then she took the paper and wrote, with a bold, firm hand, across the dark page, the bright, saving word—"pardoned!"

The Duke was fond of telling the story; and he was also willing to confess that the giving of that paper to the pardoned soldier gave him far more joy than he could have experienced from the taking of a city.

The City of Washington is to be most gorgeously decorated on the 4th of March next, in honor of the inauguration of General Garfield.

The committee on decoration recommend that thirty-eight arches of gaslight, with appropriate decorations, be placed on Pennsylvania avenue, each arch representing a State in the Union. They also recommend the decoration of all the statues in the city; and the illumination of the White House, places of business and dwellings. Mr. John Fraser, of Riverton, is one of the committee.

A young man in "these parts," who had spent a little of his own time and a good deal of his father's money in fitting for the bar, was asked, after his examination, how he got along. "Oh, well," said he, "I answered one question right." "Ah indeed!" said the old gentleman, with looks of paternal satisfaction at his son's peculiar smartness; "And what was that?" "They asked me what a *cut-throat* action was?" "That was a hard one! And you answered it correctly, did you?" "Yes, I told them that I did not know."

FANTASTICAL BICYCLE.

Fanciful structure on course expeditious,
Thou strik'st the gaze like a form apparitional,
With strangely bewildering slide
Thy shadowy outline is phantasmagorical;
Thou seem'st (to utter a phrase metaphorical)
A sort of personified glide.

That wondrous inventor with mind methodical
Conceived thy idea, aerial, mystical,
Yet so mathematically true?
The brain which conceived thy airy machinery—
Imagined thy spectral effect on the scenery—
Was ghostly and dreamy as you.

Philosophers tell us inventions mechanical
Are made by observing the structures organical
Which all throughout nature abound.
But were she subjected to strictest of scrutiny
By centaurs Archimedes or Newton?
Thy prototype would not be found.

Thou fustis *seigneur*—thou wild, irresponsible,
Filmy objective to all that's demonstrable—
Fanciful, ridiculous word!
Thy grades measured jumble humanity,
Thou outcome of solence, inspired by insanity,
Thou wavy, embodied absurd.

HOW THEY MARRY IN POLAND.

Have you read M. Tisso's account of a Polish marriage in the *Moniteur Universel*? It will amuse the ladies, I am sure. In Poland, it seems, it is not the would-be bridegroom who proposes to his lady-love, but a friend.

The two go together to the young girl's house, carrying with them a loaf of bread, a bottle of brandy, and a new pocket handkerchief. When they are shown into the "best" room the friend asks for a wine glass; if it is produced at once it is a good sign; if not, they take their leave without another word, as they understand that their proposal would not be accepted.

Suppose, however, that the desired wine glass is forthcoming, then the friend drinks to the father and mother's health, and then asks where their daughter is, upon which the mother goes to fetch her. When she comes into the room the friend (always the friend) offers her the glass, filled with brandy. If she puts it to her lips she is willing, and then the proposal is made at once. But it is the fashion to refuse it several times before finally accepting. Then the friend takes out the new handkerchief and ties the young people's hands together with it, after which it is tied round the girl's head, and she wears it as a sign of betrothal till her wedding day, which is very soon afterwards, as on the Sunday following the proposal the banns are published. On the wedding day itself all the bridesmaids and bridesmaids go round to all the friends and acquaintances of the two families and invite them to the wedding. At each house they must dance a Cracovian. (Let us hope that the dance is a short one, for the sake of their feet and breath.) During this the bride is being dressed by other young friends of hers, while young men sing virtuous strophes to her. When all the guests are assembled the bride kneels for her parents' blessing, and then she is placed in a carriage with her betrothed and the friend. Upon returning home, bread and salt are presented to the young couple and wheat is thrown over their heads. This wheat is picked up and afterwards sown; if it bears good fruit the young people will be prosperous. Dancing, singing and feasting are kept up till morning, when the young couple are accompanied to their room. But before then the bride's hair has to be cut off and she is *coiffee* with the matron's cap. This custom is terrible, but it has to be complied with. The wedding festivities are kept up for seven days and seven nights without interruption, after which the wedding visits begin, commencing by the oldest proprietor or lord of the neighborhood.—*Rome Letter of the Phila. Bulletin.*

FANCIED SLIGHTS.

A very prolific and constant source of unprofitable sorrow is caused by fancied slights or small misunderstandings. Too much importance ought never to be attached to these. We should not be too sensitive for comfort. We should not too tenaciously watch over our personal dignity. The trivial things which destroy our composure and invade our peace, are pitiful. An acquaintance is preoccupied and passes us with a hurried recognition on the street; another fails to return our call, or seems to prefer the society of some one else to ours, and we are harrowed and hurt—perhaps bitterly resent the fancied injury. A noble natured person will never resent the omissions of others, or falsely construe their motives. It is a good rule never to listen to the suggestions of pride, suspicion or jealousy in regulating our intercourse with the world.

Even where injuries have been received in return for benefits, if you would know the happiness that true nobility of soul confers upon its possessor, forgive, and as far as possible, forget. The brave only know how to forgive. It is the most refined and generous pitch of virtue, human nature can arrive at. The coward, the mean soul, never forgives, but waits in ambush for an opportunity to strike in the dark, or stab in the back. The power of forgiveness flows only from a strength and greatness, conscious of its own force and security, and above all the temptations of resenting every fruitless attempt to destroy its happiness. Small minds are hurt by small events; great minds see through and despise them. True self respect is always full of respect toward others, and wastes no thought on petty meanness or the discourtesy that arises from ill-breeding.—*Moorestown Chronicle.*

ALLIGATOR'S NESTS.

These nests resemble haystacks. They are four feet high, and five in diameter at their basis, being constructed with grass and herbage. The reptiles deposit one layer of eggs on a floor of mortar, and having covered this with a stratum of mud and herbage eight inches thick, lay another set of eggs upon that, and so on the top, there being commonly from one to two hundred eggs in the nest. With their tails they then beat down round the nest the dense grass and reeds, five feet high, to prevent the approach of unseen enemies. The female watches her eggs until they are hatched by the heat of the sun, and then takes her brood under her own care, defending them, and providing for their subsistence. Dr. Lutzenburg, of New Orleans, told me that he once packed up one of these nests with the eggs in a box for the Museum of St. Petersburg, but he was recommended, before he closed it, to see that there was no danger of the eggs being hatched on the voyage. On opening one, a young alligator walked out, and was soon followed by the rest, about a hundred, which he fed in his house, where they went up and down stairs, whining and barking like young puppies.

Lyell, the Geologist.

Whiskey is your greatest enemy, "But," said Mr. Jones, "don't the Bible say, Mr. Preacher, that we are to love our enemies?" "Oh yes, Jones but it don't say we are to swallow them."

FIRE INSURANCES.

COMMERCIAL UNION
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
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Good assets, \$9,068,702
Liabilities, 4,778,295
Surplus, \$4,290,407
Funds in the U. S. \$1,743,390

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Will advance money to any amount on
mortgage, suitable for Southern and Western
Markets.

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PRACTICAL PAINTER,
Riverton, N. J.

Riverton Meat Market.

The undersigned wishes to inform the citizens
of Riverton and vicinity that he is still at the old
stand on Main street, with a good supply of
BEEF, VEAL, MUTTON, LAMB,
PORK, LARD, SCRAP SAUSAGE
and SCRAPPLE.

Poultry constantly on hand.
Give me a call. Yours respectfully,
GEO. H. FORT.

G. SCHIEDT,
BEEF BUTCHER,
Stalls Nos. 133 & 135 Fifth Avenue,
Fifth Street Market, Phila.

T. B. EVANS,
Riverton, N. J.,
Families supplied with Fresh
Milk and Cream.

RIVERTON MARKET.
Fresh Fish, Oysters, Vegetables, Pro-
duce of all kinds, Butter, Eggs, Canned
Goods, Foreign and Domestic Fruits and
Game in season.
Goods delivered free of charge,
Give us a call.
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Will Board Ten Horses.—Terms
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Wholesale and Retail Dealer in
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STALLS 351 and 353
13th Avenue Eastern Market,
PHILADELPHIA.
Fresh Meats only.

FINANCIAL.

The year just closed will be one long to be remembered in financial circles. Never in the history of this country have railroad stocks and bonds been in such constant demand for investment. Europe shares largely in the confidence in the value of our securities. This is exemplified in the manner in which the Northern Pacific bonds were so eagerly taken in London. Messrs. Morton, Bliss & Co. were authorized to place ten millions of the bonds, and it was cable that more than double of the amount has been subscribed for. Prices have reached such high figures that a halt should be called to the indiscriminate buying of everything that is listed on our exchanges. The cautious investor will not buy bonds paying 6 per cent. on their face, at prices ranging from 120 to 135 per cent., with the risk of losing his premium in a year, if forced to sell his bonds. It is but natural to suppose that a reaction will take place, it may come at any time, and the wise will be those who prepare for it, while things look bright. United States bonds remain quite firm and active. It is next to certain that the rate for the new bonds, to replace the 5 per cent. coming due, will be 3 per cent.; this has had the effect of strengthening the prices of Government loans. Money is working easier, though most call loans are made at 6 per cent., mortgages range from 4 per cent. to 6 per cent., according to security. Since the first of January, according to general consent of bankers, sterling exchange is quoted at a certain per cent. of 4.8665, which is the value of a pound sterling in United States gold dollars.

The meeting of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company called for January 10th, has been indefinitely postponed. The stock is in the hands of a clique who have made it extremely scarce, besides advancing the price. The stock loans at present at from \$12.50 to \$25.00 per day for the use of 100 shares.

JOS. B. WILKINS, JR. ROBT. J. W. ROOSE.

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