

erson, Texas, say the proceedings of the military commission, engaged to try citizens charged with the murder of Geo. W. Smith, have so far been confined to the examination of Maj. Curtis, who was in command of the post at the time, and Lieut. Dubois and two freedmen, who escaped. There is a large crowd in attendance. Great interest is manifested; over one hundred witnesses have been summoned to appear.

Buffalo, 29.—A personal encounter occurred here yesterday between Congressional printer Clapp, now on a visit to this city, and Hon. D. S. Bennett, member of Congress for this district. An angry dispute was followed by Bennett being knocked down when friends interfered.

Boston.—The police, yesterday afternoon, interrupted an impromptu prize fight, after twelve rounds had been fought in the back yard of a drinking saloon, and arrested Stephen Williams and George Marsh, principals, and two others, for aiding and abetting. Both the principals showed severe punishment.

Chicago, 30.—The decoration of the soldiers' graves was observed to-day with the usual ceremonies; the day was rainy and unfavorable, and the attendance was not so large as expected.

At Gloucester, Mass., yesterday, Gen. Butler made a speech on the occasion of decorating the graves in which he inveighed bitterly against the conduct of England, during the rebellion; he declared that we will teach our children, by these green mountains which cover their fathers' ashes, the history of how England sought to strangle free government at its birth; hiring Hessians and savages to fight our fathers in the war for Independence, how she let loose her steamers to destroy our ships during the late rebellion and to enforce upon them the duty of reparation, and so keep alive in the hearts of the people the remembrance of the injuries, received because these men lost their lives in a war encouraged and prolonged by England's endeavors to destroy this Republic.

Chicago.—Post Master, Eastman, to-day, appointed a colored man as one of the principal clerks in the Post Office.

Some scoundrels, the other night girdled 1,500 fruit trees, mostly peaches, in the orchard of Martin Green, at St. Joseph, Michigan. The work was done effectually; the damage will reach fully \$20,000. A large reward is offered for the arrest of the perpetrators. Great excitement prevails among the citizens, who turned out next day *en masse*, men, women and children and bound up the girdled trees with clothes and grafting wax, in hopes to save some if possible.

Clifton Springs, N.Y.—Mrs. Sallis Fisk, grandmother of the late Senator S. A. Douglas, died to-day, of heart disease, aged 81 years.

New York.—Congressional Printer Clapp, denies the truth of the story of an altercation with Congressman Bennett.

Washington.—During the decoration ceremonies to-day, the crowd was dispersed by a severe rain and hail storm, which, though only a half hour in duration, did considerable damage. Several houses were unroofed and a number of persons injured.

Troy.—The decoration ceremonies, to-day, were duly observed, though rain prevailed.

Bernard Pagne was fatally wounded in a fight this morning with John Lynch; William Dally and the latter were arrested.

Wheeling, 29.—Additional particulars of the dreadful storm, yesterday, show that the destruction was far greater than was at first supposed: the destruction to the vineyards was immense, those least injured cannot be made productive for years, and in the majority of cases they were utterly ruined. Up the Wheeling Creek Valley the destruction was enormous. Many sheep and lambs were killed in the fold; the wheat and corn were cut close to the ground. A number of accidents to individuals is reported, some of which are likely to prove serious. The town of West Liberty, twelve miles distant, it is reported is in ruins. Hailstorms to the depth of two feet yet remain in the streets.

Richmond.—Albert Tyler, colored, was executed at noon, to-day, for poisoning P. Hubbard, also a colored woman, whose child Tyler had attempted to outrage, and who threatened to prosecute him. Tyler confessed the crime on the scaffold. There was a large crowd present.

Baltimore.—Albert H. Boyd, conductor of a freight train on the Northern Central Railroad, was instantly killed, while standing on the top of a car, his head striking a bridge.

Thomas Bondonion, aged 73, one of the brave men in the garrison of Fort McHenry when bombarded by the British forces in 1814, died yesterday.

Of the sixteen thousand dollars stolen from Harden's Express, twelve thousand five hundred have been recovered.

Chicago.—A severe tornado, yesterday afternoon, almost completely destroyed the town of Shipman, Macoupin Co., Illinois; the passengers by train report that nearly every building in the place was blown down. Nothing has yet been received concerning the loss of life or the amount of damage to the track. The tornado was only about a quarter of a mile wide.

To-day Detroit, Providence and many other cities throughout the country observed the decorating of the soldiers' graves. The citizens, generally, turned out in large numbers. Bells were rung, minute guns fired. Speeches, prayers, etc., composed the services in many places. The principal ceremonies occur to-morrow.

The following outline of the ceremonies of decorating the soldiers' graves at Washington is much the same as those observed at other places throughout the country:

The city, to-day, presented the appearance of Sunday, thousands having left their business to attend the solemn ceremonies of decorating the graves of our fallen heroes at Arlington. The Departments were all closed; there was but one subordinate official left in attendance at the White House. The President, accompanied by Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Dent, left shortly before noon to attend the ceremonies. The road to Georgetown and through Germantown and across the aqueduct bridge to the cemetery was thronged at an early hour, and the carriage way was thronged with vehicles of every description and the street cars were literally packed all the morning. A battalion of marines was on the grounds. Visitors passed through the grounds and visited all points of interest, and stopped for awhile among the graves. Before 11 o'clock the crowd was immense, and every moment brought additions. One of the greatest points of attraction was a tomb or monument erected to unknown soldiers. Around it had been erected a canopy of American flags, supported by six upright posts. The canopy was beautifully trimmed with wreaths of evergreens, decorated with small flags and streamers of parti-colored cambric. The monument is a solid block of granite, about eight feet square and six feet high. On either corner is placed an iron twelve-pounder. Between these guns is piled a stack of balls, as used in the guns. Around the monument were tastefully hung beautiful wreaths of evergreens, laurel and choice roses. The effect was elegant. The inscriptions on the monument are as follows: "Recorded in the archives of their country, its grateful citizens honor them as among their noble army of martyrs; they rest in peace. Sept., A.D., 1866." "Beneath this stone repose the bodies of two thousand one hundred and eleven unknown soldiers, gathered after the war from the fields of Bull Run and on the route to Rappahannock."

Long before the commencement of the exercises, a dense crowd had assembled in front of the stand, which was decorated with evergreens and flowers, and a profusion of national flags. About 1 o'clock President Grant and family, Gen. Sherman, the members of the Cabinet, foreign ministers and other prominent officials took their seats, when a salute was fired to indicate the commencement of the ceremonies. Comrade Samuel A. Duncan, Grand Commander of the Department of the Potomac, called the assembly to order, when the marine band played "Miserere." Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Newman, when an ode to the dead, having been sung, the general order of the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., Gen. Logan, ordering the observance of the day, was read. The concluding exercises on the stage were the singing of "God bless our native land." A poem, "Our Martyrs," written for the occasion by Francis Dehaes Janvier, and a song, "Sleep well ye heroes brave," were sung by the Washington *Saengerbund*. Hon. S. S. Fisher delivered an address commemorative of the deeds of the dead, after which the orphans gathered around the monument to the unknown dead, when a prayer was offered and a requiem sung. The orphans sang "shall we know each other" and "the children of the fallen brave." A procession was then formed and passed into the National Cemetery, where the decoration of the graves took place. Two bands, stationed at opposite sections of the cemeteries, played dirges while the graves were being strewn with flowers. The ceremonies were concluded by the firing of a signal gun, the people gathering round a small stand in the cemetery, where the band played Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and the Chaplain of the Department of the Potomac pronounced a benediction. The ceremonies, throughout, were of an interesting and affecting character. There were on the grounds thousands of colored people, including a company of uniformed colored zouaves. Many of them, like the whites, participated in the decoration of the graves.

St. Louis.—Bellfontaine, Calvary and other cemeteries around the city were visited to-day by large crowds of people; all the graves of deceased soldiers were decorated with flowers. The ceremonies at the National cemetery, Jefferson Barracks, twelve miles below the city, was the most imposing. Over ten thousand participated, paying a tribute to the departed heroes. The graves of 11,700 soldiers were strewn with flowers and decorated with wreaths and crosses.

The reports of the committee on union with the Church South, and on the nomination of trustees for theological seminaries, were adopted.

St. Louis.—The St. Louis Type Foundry caught fire to-day, and was injured by fire and water to the amount of \$40,000 or \$50,000.

Atlanta, Ga.—Davis' Theatre and two dwellings were destroyed by fire last night; loss \$75,000. No insurance.

New York, 29.—Some 15,000 persons assembled to-day to witness the last day's trotting, at Prospect Park; the assemblage was unusually fashionable. There were nearly a thousand carriages of all descriptions on the ground. The trotting was very exciting. The first race was for \$1,500 mile heats, the best 3 in 5 for all horses never beat at 2.31. It was won by Little Fred, 3 straight heats, time 2.29, 2.28½ and 2.26½. The second race, there was a premium of \$5,000 for the winner, \$3,000 for the second horse, \$15,000 the third, mile heats, the best 3 in 5 in harness for all horses, except Lady Thorne and the Mountain Boy; it was won by American Girl, time 2.23½, 2.22½ and 2.21. Lucy was second, Bushaw third.

Chicago.—To-day was observed, as memorial day, at Milwaukee, Buffalo, Gettysburg, Philadelphia and many other cities, with the usual ceremonies.

Memphis.—Mr. Southwick, of Chicago, committed suicide by hanging himself in a stable last evening; cause unknown.

At a negro ball, last night, Charley Boyd shot Mary Kelly through the head, killing her instantly. Boyd escaped.

The following is a synopsis of the decision of the Supreme Court at Brownsville yesterday, in the State vs. Staten case. It was the unanimous opinion of the Court, and was delivered by Henry K. Smith, Judge, holding that the right to vote was a clear, legal right, secured to the citizens under the constitutional bill of rights to Tennessee; the elective franchise stood on as high a ground as the right of property or any other right secured by the Constitution; that this right, once vested, could not be taken away by due process of law; that the power attempted to be conferred on the Governor by acts of the Legislature, to set aside registration for frauds, irregularities and other causes, is a judicial power which cannot be conferred or exercised by the Executive of this State; and in setting aside registrations in counties and parts of counties his acts are absolutely null and void; and that holders, having certificates granted by previous registration commissioners, are entitled to vote by reason of the same. Judge Shackelford delivered a separate opinion, concurring with this decision, but he went further and attempted to justify his opinion on the case of Ridley vs. Sherbook.

Chicago, 31.—The *Tribune's* special says, the case of the United States against Armand Bros., who built ships for the Confederacy and sold them after the close of the war, is again before the French Court of Appeals. Our Government retained Jules Favre, in place of Berryer, deceased. The case was decided against the United States in the lower courts on the ground that the material evidence against Armand consisted in documents which had been stolen from him; our authorities have since supplied other evidence to cover the same points, and the matter will be heard from the beginning.

The question has been referred to the Attorney General for decision, involving the right of a military commission to try criminals in the South. General Reynolds lately took three persons, who had murdered union men from the

civil authorities in Texas, on the ground that the latter showed no disposition to try them, and he intends to try them by a military commission. It is understood that Judge Hoar will decide that this course can be taken in the un-reconstructed States where the civil authorities have neglected their duties.

New York.—Boyer's linseed oil mills in Water Street, were burned yesterday; loss \$30,000.

Fitzgerald's varnish works, in Brooklyn were burned last night; loss \$6,000.

The eight-hour law has been promulgated in the navy yard at Brooklyn.

Congressman Butler is reported to have said that the law in the Alabama controversy is on the side of England, and it has been so decided by our Supreme Court, but we should nevertheless withdraw our intercourse with England because of her course in taking advantage of the technicalities of the law to injure us. He opposes a reciprocity treaty with Canada, as we were unfairly treated in the last one; but he thinks such a treaty would be a great advantage to Canada, and England. He expressed the greatest confidence in Boutwell's policy, and considers him the best Secretary of the Treasury since Hamilton.

The *Herald* says the proclamation of belligerent rights to the Cubans from President Grant would now settle the question in Cuba, in less than a month; in fact the Peruvians may settle it within that time, but what a sorry settlement this would be for us. The country expects the annexation of Cuba, and Gen. Grant ought to be ashamed of this sort of American dignity and decorum; it is nonsense, it is stupid, old fogyism and we have had enough of it.

Two incendiary fires occurred at Williamsburg, this morning. At the second fire there was an "unpleasantness" between the hose company and the ladder company, resulting in the serious injury of several men, one of whom is not expected to survive. The Chief Engineer has locked up the house of the company that began the riot.

The *Times' N. Y. Special* says there are now in the small pox hospital at Blackwell's Island ninety cases, which have been taken in during the past week or two. Previous to that time there was hardly a single case in a month. Several ships have been detained in quarantine, having small pox on board.

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Respectfully soliciting a continuance of the business, as heretofore confided to Mr. Linforth, I beg to refer (by permission) to the following gentlemen.

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References:
Jas. Linforth, Esq., of Linforth, Kellogg & Rail; Jonathan Hunt, Esq., Pres. Pacific Insurance Co.; A. J. Ralston, Esq., Sec. Pacific Insurance Co.; Falkner, Bell & Co.; Badger & Lindenberger; L. B. Benchley, Esq.; Meagher, Taaffe & Co.; J. A. Donohoe, Esq., of Donohoe, Kelly & Co.; Roberts, McNish & Co.

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