NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, SEPT. 14.

☞ SEE OUTSIDE OF TO-DAY'S PAPER. ☜

☞ **The Whig Convention** to select Delegates to the Convention at Utica stands adjourned to meet on Monday next, at half-past 7 o'clock, at the Broadway House.

PHILIP HONE, Chairman.
s12

'Liberty Party.'

This party held its State Convention at Cazenovia, Madison Co. on the 10th inst. and nominated

For Governor ..... HENRY BRADLEY, of Penn-Yan;
" Lt. Governor ..... WM. L. CHAPLIN, of Albany;
Canal Commissioners JAMES SPERRY of Monroe;
JOHN THOMAS of Cortland Co.

There were 40 Counties represented by about 170 persons. Mr. Bradley, the candidate for Governor, has several times aided to elect a Loco-Foco Senator in the VIIth District (we would gladly believe he did n't mean it) by running as the 'Liberty' or Birney candidate. Mr. L. Chaplin is Editor of the Albany Patriot. John Thomas has been the main instrument in breaking down the Whig majority of 3 or 400 in Cortland Co. to nothing, and thus aided in electing Polk, with Texas U. S. Senators and Representatives. We apprehend, however, that this party will help Loco-Focoism a good deal less than usual this Fall. The New-Hampshire, Vermont and other Elections look that way.

☞ An article in relation to the Tariffville Carpet Weavers is necessarily deferred till to-morrow.

☞ The *Skaneateles Democrat* is requested to solve for us this problem: Suppose three men to be at sea, on a raft composed of three planks, and one of them insists—not on merely maintaining the *opinion* that they could get on better with two planks only—but on seizing one of the planks and pushing it a rod away; and now it is found that the raft will buoy up but two of the three men; which one should go overboard, to try his luck on the single plank if he chooses? You may suppose, if it is any object, that the destructive honestly *believed* the two planks would sustain more than the three. When the Democrat has solved this problem, its controversy with us will be ended, though it contrived in its last to talk at great length by merely assuming that a vote to destroy the Protective Policy is an *opinion* and not an *act*, and that if the manufactories shall be forced to suspend or curtail operations, we can't tell whether the change of Tariffs has been the cause of it or not.—It is the Democrat, not we, who assume that the Laborer is the vassal of his employer, and dependent on him for a chance to earn his livelihood. We suppose him to be a freeman, who if he is not wanted to work in one place can get his living elsewhere.

The Democrat thinks our ideas on Social and Political subjects inconsistent with each other. They are just so inconsistent as this—we endeavor always to understand the beings and the circumstances on which any proposed institutions, usages or laws are to operate, and act in the light of our knowledge. We would make one code for New-York and a different one for Mexico or Madagascar. We heartily believe 'there's a good time coming' in which legal penalties for adultery, rum selling, keeping a gambling house, &c. will be superfluous—their work being much better done by an enlightened and omnipresent Public Sentiment, creating a universal abhorrence of the vices which Legal Penalties can at best but imperfectly reach and suppress. As the world now is, however, we perceive and insist on a necessity for such penalties, while we admit that they never can thoroughly eradicate the evils they aim at. When the Democrat has studied more, reflected more, on this whole subject, we think the inconsistencies it now finds, or rather fancies, will have vanished.

Vermont.

The Montpelier *Watchman* gives returns from all but 21 towns, showing the following result:

	1845.				1846.			
Counties.	*Slade,*	*Kell.*	*Shof.*	*Set.*	*Eat.*	*Sam.*	*Bas.*	*Set.*
Bennington	1555	1462	240	22	1627	1375	227	1
Windham, 19 Tns.	2639	1517	369	4	2675	1536	577	1
Windsor	3392	1646	949	10	3660	1819	1012	
Rutland, 24	2657	1490	562	9	2878	1590	918	
Addison, 19	1418	614	362	221	1934	452	566	
Orange	1978	2207	663	3	1973	2209	659	
Chittenden, 21	1711	1235	530	19	1747	1194	577	
Washington	1469	2162	547	6	1536	2067	616	2
Caledonia	1630	1672	289		1653	1624	444	1
Franklin	1739	1444	472		1815	1361	566	
Orleans, 12	899	629	252		930	569	290	
Lamoille	427	794	690		418	690	699	4
Essex, 11	372	391	46		418	399	12	
Grand Isle, 4	275	159	1		270	177	1	
Total	21741	17668	6660	293	22895	17016	6671	6
Increase of Whig vote								1144
Decrease of Loco-Foco vote								652
Increase of Third Party vote								291
The majority of all other votes against the Whigs last year was, in the towns heard from								2590
Ditto this year								898
Net Whig gain								1492

The 21 towns yet to come in gave last year a majority against Mr. Slade of 370. Mr. Eaton will probably lack 1100 votes of an election.

We give the names of the Senators elect as follows. Whigs in Roman, 23; Locos in Italic, 7:

Bennington Co.—Blackman E. Brownell, Heman Morse.
Windham Co.—Ebenezer Howe, Jr. John Kimball, Austin Birchard.
Rutland Co.—Joseph H. Chittenden, George T. Hodges, John Fox.
Windsor Co.—Artemas Cushman, Harvey Burton, Robert B. Cram, Dearborn H. Hilton.
Addison Co.—William Nash, Davis Rich.
Orange Co.—*Levi S. Vilas, Horace Fifield, Reuben Page.*
Chittenden Co.—Harry Bradley, Daniel H. Onion.
Washington Co.—*Oramel H. Smith, Moses Robinson.*
Caledonia Co.—Welcome Bemis, James D. Bell.
Franklin Co.—Hiram Bellows, Wm. Clapp, Geo. W. Foster.
Orleans Co.—Enoch B. Simons.
Lamoille Co.—*B. S. Miner.*
Essex Co.—David Hibbard, Jr.
Grand Isle Co.—*Giles Harrington.*

According to the Watchman the House stands as follows:

Counties.	W.	L.	Ab.	Not heard from.	Counties.	W.	L.	Ab.	Not heard from.
Bennington	8	6	1	1	Caledonia	9	6	0	0
Windham	14	0	2	0	Franklin	9	2	0	0
Windsor	12	5	3	0	Orleans	9	3	1	0
Rutland	15	7	0	1	Lamoille	0	7	2	0
Addison	17	3	1	0	Essex	7	5	0	0
Orange	2	9	0	0	Grand Isle	3	2	0	0
Chittenden	10	3	1	0					
Washington	5	11	1	0	Total	120	69	12	2

Whig majority in the Senate 16, House 39—in joint ballot 55; five Whig gain from last year, as indicated by the vote for Speaker in the House. [The *Patriot* (Loco.) claims a gain of 5 the other way—making the number stand Whig 117, Loco 75.]

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—WM. HENRY (Whig) is elected in the First District, by a majority of about 1,000 over all. In the IInd District we still fear that Hon. JACOB COLLAMER is defeated, though the Watchman's returns elect him by 30 majority, and those of the Patriot (Loco) by 4. The Woodstock Mercury, (Whig) published in the District, says he lacks 215 votes of an election. Hon. GEORGE P. MARSH's majority in the IIId District is some 300 or 400 over all. In the IVth District the majority against Peck (Loco) is very large—say 1,300. The abolition vote is heavy.

☞ THE WHIGS OF CONNECTICUT will hold their Convention to nominate candidates for State officers at Hartford Nov. 4th.

☞ Mr. BANCROFT's difficulty with an Ex-Clerk of the Navy Department is still unsettled, and a spicy correspondence between the parties, it is said, will go on file in the Department.

ANTI-RENTERS PARDONED.—Silas Tompkins, Lewis Knapp and Anson K. Burrill, who were the first convicts from Delaware Co. under the law against appearing disguised and armed, were released from Sing Sing prison on Saturday morning on a pardon which restores them to the rights of citizenship. They were under sentence for two years and had served sixteen months of the term. Their behavior in prison we understand has been unexceptionable, and they were of course overjoyed on being released. Burrill said he did not regret his incarceration, for he thought it had been the means of his conversion to God, and that he should henceforth lead a very different life from that which he formerly led. After thanking the keeper of the prison for his kindness, they took their departure for home with feelings very different from those with which they entered on their imprisonment.

DALLAS'S NIGHT-CAP.—The Hot Blast of the Valley Furnace has been roofed in, and the whole works put in a full state of suspension. The roof is surmounted with a barrel which is labeled "*Dallas's Night-Cap.*" [Miners' Jour. Pottsville.

THE CALAMITY AT MADISON.—A gentleman who left Madison on Saturday last says that at that time there were eleven bodies found at Madison, and two in a creek above. The Railroad embankments and culverts were entirely swept away, so that it is supposed great time and expense will be required to repair it. The damage is estimated at 70,000 dollars. [Wheeling Times.

Cool.

Charles J. Ingersoll, accepting a re-nomination to Congress from the District he has for some years perniciously represented, thus discourses (for the meridian of Pennsylvania) on the Tariff question:

"The sweeping suddenness of the act of last session, with Mr. Haywood and Mr. Niles of the Senate, and other considerate members of the Democratic party—probably more than the votes indicate—I thought unjust to those encouraged by former legislation to risk their all in manufactures; and furthermore, I cannot vote, in any doubtful matters, against my state, which, right or wrong, in such a question, is my country. At the approaching session of Congress, *Mr. Polk, the wisest advocate of that protection of public interests, which is the first duty of any Government*, and without the performance of which duty Government would be a mockery—*Mr. Polk, I trust, will give the influence of his administration for amendments*, if then proved necessary to do justice to Pennsylvania, which it is the interests of this whole Union to render."

If this were the first time trying it on, we should not consider the above too impudent for C. J. Ingersoll. But in view of the pledges of '44, the Message and Treasury Report of '45, and the Tariff of '46, it does strike us as more brazen than human features well can be.

New Judicial System.

The following are the principal features of the Judiciary system as adopted by our Constitutional Convention.

1. A Court for the trial of impeachments is established, to be composed of the President of the Senate, the Senators or the major part of them, and the Judges of the Court of Appeals or the major part of them.

2. Abolishes the present Court for the Correction of Errors, and in lieu thereof establishes a Court of Appeals, composed of eight Judges, four of whom are to be elected by the electors of the State for eight years, and four selected from the class of Justices of the Supreme Court having the shortest time to serve. The Legislature is to provide for classifying those elected, so that one shall be elected every second year.

3. Organizes a Supreme Court having general jurisdiction in law and equity, subject to alteration and regulation by the Legislature. Law and equity powers are vested in this Court.

4. Divides the State into eight Judicial Districts, of which the City of New-York is one. The Districts to be compact and equal in population as nearly as may be. There are to be four Justices of the Supreme Court in each District, and as many more in the District composed of the City of New-York as may from time to time be authorized by law, but not to exceed the number of Justices in the other Districts in proportion to its population. Upon the first election the Justices are to be classified so that one in each District shall go out of office at the end of every two years. After the expiration of these terms under such classification, the term of these offices is to be eight years.

5. Provides that any three or more of the Justices of the Supreme Court may hold general terms of the Court in any district, and any one of them may hold special terms and Circuit Courts, and preside at the Courts of Oyer and Terminer in any County. Provision is to be made by the Legislature for designating a Judge to preside in the Courts in banc of the several districts.

6. The Judges are to receive a compensation for their services to be established by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during their continuance in office.

7. The Judges are not to hold any other office or public trust. All votes given for them for any elective office (except that of Judge) are declared void. They are not to exercise any power of appointment to public office. Every male citizen of the age of 21 years, of good moral character, and having the requisite learning and ability, shall be admitted to practice in all the Courts of the State.

8. Provision is to be made by law for the classification of the Justices of the Supreme Court, and for designating the times and place of holding the terms of the Court of Appeals, and of the general and special terms of the Supreme Court within the several districts, and the Circuit Courts and Courts of of Oyer and Terminer within the several Counties.

9. The testimony in Equity cases to be taken in like manner as in cases of law, and the offices of Master and Examiner in Chancery are abolished. This provision summarily disposes of over three hundred officers, and adopts the only rational mode of taking testimony.

10. Provides for the removal of all judicial officers, except Justices of the Peace, by joint resolution of both houses of the Legislature, if two-thirds of all the members elected to the Senate concur therein. Removal only to take place for disability or mal-conduct in office, and an opportunity to be given for the party charged to be heard in his defence.

11. Provides for the election of Justices of the Supreme Court by the electors of the respective judicial districts. The first election is to be a special one, and not to take place within forty days of a general annual election. Subsequent elections of one Judge in each district may take place at the annual election.

12. Each county is to elect one Judge, to hold a County Court and discharge the duties of Surrogate. The County Court is to have appellate jurisdiction of proceedings in Justices' Courts, but no original civil jurisdiction, except in special cases to be prescribed by law. It is to have such original criminal jurisdiction as the Legislature may prescribe. The criminal County Court is to be composed of the Judge so elected and two Justices of the Peace, to be designated by the Board of Supervisors. The Judge is to receive a salary to be fixed by the Board of Supervisors, and the Justices a per diem allowance to be also fixed by said Board. In counties containing a population of over 40,000, a County Judge and also a person to discharge the duties of Surrogate, may be elected.

13. Empowers the Legislature to establish inferior courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction in cities, but not to be a charge upon the State Treasury. Provision may also be made by law for appealing directly from these courts to the Court of Appeals.

14. The Legislature is to reorganize the Judicial Districts every ten years, and may increase or diminish their number, but such increase or diminution shall not be more than one district at any one time. No diminution shall have the effect to remove a judge from office.

15. Provides for the election of Justices of the Peace by the people; fixes their term of office at four years, and leaves their number and classification to be regulated by law. The Legislature may, on application of the Board of Supervisors, provide for the election of local officers, not to exceed two in any county, to discharge the duties of Judge and Surrogate in case of their inability or of a vacancy, and to exercise such other powers in special cases, as may be provided by law.

16. Prevents any judicial officer, except Justices of the Peace, from receiving any fees or perquisites of office for his own use.

17. Authorises the Legislature on the application of the Board of Supervisors, to provide for the election of officers, not exceeding two in any county, to discharge the duties of Judge and Surrogate in case of vacancy in these offices, and also such duties in special proceedings as may be prescribed by law.

18. Empowers the Legislature to establish tribunals of conciliation; but the tribunals so established are not to be empowered to enter judgments or decrees against parties, unless they voluntarily assent thereto in the presence of the conciliators.

19. Authorises the Legislature to make provision for leaving free to any individual the publication of the Statutes of the State, and the decisions of the courts.

20. Provides for the first election of Justices of the Supreme Court between the 1st Tuesday in April and 1st Tuesday in June, 1847. Said Court is to organize on the 1st Monday of July, 1847, and their judicial term is to be deemed to commence on the 1st day of January, 1848. For the purpose of finishing the business now on hand in the Courts, the old Courts are to continue until the 1st Monday of July, 1848, unless the business shall be sooner disposed of. The new Court is to act in all of the old one in determining the unfinished business.

21. Provides for the election by the Electors of the State of a Clerk of the Court of Appeals, who shall be *ex officio* Clerk of the Supreme Court, and shall keep his office at the Seat of Government. The County Clerks shall be *ex officio* Clerks of the Supreme Court.

Such, says the Eve. Journal, are the general features of the Judicial System which the Convention has finally wrought out and adopted. We congratulate the People upon a result so auspicious.—This is the great measure of Reform which brought the Convention into existence. Long and anxiously has public attention been hanging upon its deliberations. But men will breathe with freedom now. The great merits of this system will be universally acknowledged. We point to its different sections with pleasure and pride. They contemplate great and beneficent Reforms. They meet the wants of the State and answer the expectations of the People. Should the Convention fail to accomplish other needed objects of Reform, the establishment of such an enlarged, enlightened and philanthropic Judicial System, will compensate, a thousand fold, for what it has cost.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER.—The Lancaster (Mass.) Courant of the 11th says:—Our citizens were thrown into the greatest consternation this morning, by the fact that an attempt had been made to rob and murder the Cashier of the Lancaster Bank, Mr. C. T. Symmes. It appears from the testimony of Mrs. Symmes, that about two o'clock she was awakened by her husband, who spoke to her, when by a light which the burglar had brought into the room, they both perceived a man, with his back toward them, at work at the bureau. The villain immediately turned and caught Mr. S. by the throat, telling him to give him that hundred dollars. [Deacon Parker of Southboro,' had paid Mr. Symmes this money the previous evening, and in the presence of the assassin.] A violent scuffle ensued between them, which lasted some ten minutes, during which time the burglar made an attempt to kill Mr. S. with a razor, by cutting his throat. He succeeded in inflicting a very severe wound in the right side of the throat, about three inches long, striking the windpipe, barely escaping the jugular vein and carotid artery. Mrs. S. also received a cut upon the throat, about two inches long, as well as several others of slight nature about her arms and person, of which there is no danger of loss of life. Mr. S. is very much exhausted, but will probably recover. Mr. S. succeeded in getting one or more of the villain's fingers into his mouth, which he bit with such force as to loosen all his front teeth. This is the only clue to his detection, as yet.

The scoundrel is well known to both Mr. and Mrs. S. but neither of them will now tell his name, as they both took a solemn oath not to say who it was if he would spare their lives. We trust they will yet be led to a sense of their obligations to society—to the well-being and security of the world—and not thus stand as a shield between the criminal and that punishment he so richly merits.

The Boston Atlas states that the name of the assassin is Otto Sutor, a young German, who formerly resided in Lancaster. He is 21 years old, about 5 feet 6 inches high, stout built, florid complexion, sunburnt, light-colored hair and eyes. He wore at the time, a light-colored plaid frock coat, dark pants, and a cap. A reward of $300 has been offered for his arrest, by the President and Directors of the Bank.

DISPATCHES FOR THE TRIBUNE BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

THE SANTA FE EXPEDITION.

BALTIMORE—Sunday night.

Gen. Kearney left Bent's Fort for Santa Fe on the 3d ult. He lost 100 horses, and his troops are on half rations. The army numbers 1,800 men, all on the march.

The Mormons and the Anti-Mormons are on the eve of battle. A fight is inevitable.

From the Mobile Herald and Tribune, 6th inst.—Extra.

Late and Important from Mexico.

U. S. BRIG-OF-WAR TRUXTON BURNT.

Officers and Crew, with the exception of two Lieutenants and nineteen men, taken Prisoners by the Mexicans and marched to Tampico.

By the arrival of the U. S. Revenue steamer Legare at New Orleans, from Vera Cruz, we are in receipt of letters from our correspondents as late as the 29th ult. We have but time previous to the closing of the mail to publish the following letter:

U. S. SQUADRON, OFF POINT ANTONIA DE LIZARDO, August 29th, 1846.

The only event of importance which has transpired of late, is the loss of the U. S. brig Truxton, on the bar of Tuxpam river, about 130 miles northward of Vera Cruz. The intelligence was brought to the Squadron on the 19th, by the St. Mary's, that ship having picked up one of the Truxton's boats with Lieutenant Berryman on board.

It appears that Capt. Carpenter of the Truxton, wishing to get his vessel near shore to protect his boats while obtaining provisions, employed a Scotchman he had taken out of a Mexican prize to pilot him in, but who, whether from design or accident, run him aground on the 15th. On the 17th, with the exception of Lieut. Hunter and a boat's crew, she was abandoned by the officers and men, who went ashore to the number of about 60 in all, and surrendered themselves to the Mexican commandant. They were hospitably received, complimented with a ball, and left next day with a guide of four men for Tampico, about 100 miles further north.—Lieut. Hunter and his boat's crew put to sea, captured a small Mexican schooner and came down to our present anchorage, making in all two officers (Lieuts. Hunter and Berryman) and about 20 men saved. As soon as the news was received, the Princeton immediately got under weigh and proceeded to the scene of disaster.

The Truxton was found beating on the bar, bilged and completely filled with water, having about 4 feet over the birth deck. The surf was so violent on the bar that it was not until the 23d, that the boats of the Princeton could board her, when, finding it impossible to get her off or save her, she was fired and completely burned. A few of the best spars were brought off, but otherwise she is a total loss. She had been completely plundered and stript by the Mexicans before the arrival of the Princeton. Her guns were found to have been thrown overboard. The Princeton ran into 5 fathoms water (she draws 19½ feet), and was then about 1½ miles distant, the swell was so heavy that a nearer approach in shoaler water was deemed dangerous.

After firing the brig, the Princeton returned immediately on the 23d to this present anchorage, about 16 miles southward of Vera Cruz. At the mouth of Tuxpan River, the Mexicans have a small force tented in sheds. The town of Truxton is back some eight miles distant. Several communications passed between the Princeton and shore by flags of truce, and by them the fate of the captives was learnt.

The cutter Legare, 60 hours from Brazos, arrived on the 25th with despatches for our Commodore, supposed relating to a three months' armistice with the Mexicans. The distance from the Brazos to this place is 450 miles, and was performed under steam against strong head winds. The Legare returns to New-Orleans for repairs to her boilers, which are in a bad condition, and prevents her carrying steam.

About ten days since Santa Anna left Vera Cruz for the city of Mexico, previous to which, however, he sent a polite invitation to our Commodore to meet him on board the English frigate Endymion; the interview did not take place. A few days past one of the English frigate boats came down in a violent rain squall with a communication for the Commodore; the next day a flag of truce was returned, but no rumor of the business has transpired. The frigate Potomac is nearly disabled by the sickness of her crew. The scurvy has broken out on board of her, and she has now 140 cases of the dreadful disease. On the 27th, the cutter Forward arrived from the Balize, but brought no intelligence of importance.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

The Peace Proposition.

By an Extra *Picayune* we learn that the U. S. cutter Legare arrived below N. Orleans on the 5th inst. from Vera Cruz, with advices to the 29th ult. Santa Ana's reception at Vera Cruz was gratifying to him and his friends, but not so very enthusiastic as was expected. He passed on at once to Mexico. Dispatches from Washington, offering peace to Mexico, were taken out to Commodore Connor by the Legare, and on their receipt he communicated with Vera Cruz, by means of a flag of truce. The peace proposition would therefore follow Santa Ana to the capital, if it did not accompany him thither. His reply will be known probably by the next arrival. The yellow fever had made its appearance on board the British vessels of war at Sacrificios. The scurvy prevailed to a great extent on board the Potomac frigate. The balance of the squadron were in good health.

From Washington.

Correspondence of the Balt. Pat.

Sept. 11th, 1846.

An experienced clerk in the General Land Office, who is one of the "faithful," informs me that ever since the new Administration commenced the work of turning out the very able Chief Clerk of that office, Mr. MOORE, (whose place could not be supplied) and others to make room for green hands, confusion has been accumulating there with giant strides. He complains that old and capable Clerks are kept in their places and not promoted, when those above them are dismissed, but fresh hands are appointed to those better offices. Among others of this latter lucky class of progressive Loco Focos, he named a brother of Senator PENNYBACKER, and another person, the latter being somewhat celebrated as the clergyman in Lexington, Ky. in 1844, who refused to join the other clergymen of that city in bearing testimony to the respectability, in a moral and social point of view, of Mr. CLAY's character among his friends and neighbors. Verily, he hath his reward, as he no doubt thinks.

I conversed with a gentleman to-day, who some few days since had a long conversation with the celebrated Captain Rynders, of the Empire Club in New-York. The Captain is heartily sick of Mr. Polk, and denounces himself, I am told, in round old Saxon phrase, and at a vehement rate, for having ever been led, by any circumstances or under any considerations, to oppose the election of such a brilliant and towering specimen of a Man, as he knew HENRY CLAY to be, and to give his support to—*James K. Polk!*

The funeral of General McConnell took place to-day and was attended by a large number of persons. He was buried in the Congressional Burying Ground.

PORCMAC.

Things in Philadelphia.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 13, 1846.

A fire broke out about 3 o'clock this morning in a carpenter's shop, at the corner of 7th and Brown sts. The wind was blowing briskly from the North, and the flames spread to the lumber yard adjoining and down 7th st. to Marshall, entirely destroying the large amount of lumber &c. stored there, belonging to J. A. Kice, Esq. The fire then continued up Marshall-st. toward 6th, consuming two frame dwellings and a stable on that street. The intense heat from the burning lumber set fire to the dwelling houses on the west side of 7th-st. burning off the roofs and otherwise injuring them.

While the frame houses on Marshall-st. were burning the roof of one of them fell in and severely injured Mr. Lewis Enoch, a member of the Independence Hose Co. One of his legs was broken and his body much bruised. At 2 o'clock, when I last heard from the scene, the fire was not yet entirely subdued, but as the hose carriages are passing down Chesnut st. now I presume it has been checked. There were some attempts at a fight by the rowdy companies, but it was stopped by the police.

There was a child severely burned, but whose it was or how it occurred I could not learn.

About noon, while all the companies were in service, another alarm was spread from 12th-st. near Poplar. Two newly-erected dwellings were slightly injured and one house totally destroyed. Not being acquainted with the locality, I cannot tell whether it was a dwelling or not. The 12th Methodist Church was in great danger for some time, but by the active use of buckets it was saved. There is no doubt that both these fires were the acts of heartless incendiaries, or probably of the young wretches who "run with the engines," and will have a fire whether or no.

We have a delightful day—nothing could be more lovely.

Of course you have the fact that Hon. Edward Joy Morris has been re-nominated by the Whigs of the 1st Congressional District. I think I may safely predict his election. The Native force in the district is divided upon Mr. Levin; the Democrats distrust Col. Florence as having linked himself with Mr. Dallas, between whom and Mr. Buchanan there is but little political love, and also for his unfortunate anti-Pennsylvanian course on the subject of the Tariff. It is very evident that no politician can save both the Country and Mr. Polk, for the Administration seems bent to do it by the worst means the worst. Col. Florence has enrolled himself under the Polk banner, and that is at this present time about as obnoxious among the Locofocos as ever it was with the Whigs. Mr. Morris faithfully served this district in the last Congress; many who were induced to vote against him in '44 have since openly expressed their regrets. The old "Constitutional Democracy" are firm on the Protective policy, and I think will prefer voting for a gentleman whose position is known, as is that of Mr. Morris, to throwing them away upon Mr. Florence, who is as hard to be read understandingly as a Delphic response. He may shout "the Tariff of '42!" but whether he is for it or against it will puzzle you to find out.

The Rats and Bouncers have been rioting all day below the city, but as I came down to the Post Office to mail this I see some of the "rats" have "bounced" into the city trap, for Andy Young, one of our city officers, just took two up to the Mayor's office.

DISASTERS.—The schr Mary & Elizabeth, Buchaloe, from New-Haven, for Philadelphia, with an assorted cargo, was driven ashore during the gale of Wednesday night on Absecom Beach, and up to the latest accounts, afternoon of the 10th inst. she remained perfectly tight, and it was supposed would be got off without material injury. The schr Fairplay, Express, and sloops Silvia and Muncy, also went ashore on Absecom Beach, during the same gale—no particulars given.

[Exchange Books.

NEW-YORK CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

FIFTEENTH WEEK—LXXXVIIth DAY.

The Canals, Finance, and Debts of the State.

ALBANY, Saturday Evening, Sept. 12, 1846.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

SIR: Mr. Archer of Wayne spoke to-day, for the first time, and with all the ease of an old and practiced debater. His speech condemned much that was useful, and was well arranged. I did not hear the commencement of it.

Nearly half the Convention is absent, but the question of Debts, Finances, Canals and Public Improvements is of primary importance. The French and Spanish Monarchies were upset by financial derangement, and the accounts of a State ought to be entrusted to experienced and judicious agents.

It was a few minutes past nine this morning when I got down to the Convention. I found Mr. ARCHER of Wayne in possession of the floor, replying to Mr. Hoffman. He said that the system pursued by the State of making canals by borrowing money, was the only system that could have been pursued. Had money not been borrowed—had the state waited to build and dig the canals with cash, raised by taxation, would the canals be as they are, and have long been, a general benefit to the state and Union? The credit system has done this for us, and although it had been, at times, shamefully abused, as almost every good thing is yet that was no reason or argument why credit should not be taken, and canals built or completed, whenever it would be considered wise or expedient to excavate them if the State had the cash in its treasury. The gross revenue derived from some 30 millions laid out is 7 per cent, and the net revenue between 5 and 6 per cent, on the capital laid out, and yet 10 millions and upwards of this capital is unproductive because the works began are not finished, because the Genesee Canal, the Black River Canal, and the Erie Canal enlargement, 70 by 7, are not completed. In Mr. Hoffman's speech yesterday, he had not contemplated to complete the Erie enlargement at any time, but had looked forward to a period when rival routes would lessen the revenues of the canals.

Mr. Hoffman is in the employ of a Government the head of which is far more anxious to veto bills for improving the canals, rivers and harbors of the North, and expend the credit and resources of the nation in conquests, war, armies, and contractors to break down sister Republics and extend the accursed dominion of Slavery where it had been abolished, in the South. He is paid some $12,000 a year to check the moneys received at the New-York Custom-House, and sworn to perform that duty, which he has personally neglected for months. He professes to be an enemy to the credit system, if the money is to be laid out on Canals in the State of New-York; he has been a steady prop to the credit system by which Messrs. Polk, Walker & Marcy have borrowed or otherwise got the Nation in debt 100 millions, wasted in a war for conquest, for slavery, for contracts, for plunder. He fears the American system of debt to build Canals yielding 7 per cent, and adding peacefully to the wealth, commerce, power, strength, comfort and real greatness of his native State; but he hires himself to the government that imitates the British system of involving a country deep in debt to batter down the walls and butcher the peaceful citizens of Matamoros and the banks of the Rio Grande, in order that new plantations of kidnapped Negroes might add to Southern influence and increase Federal profligacy in the Senate and House of Representatives! Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Flagg and Mr. Silas Wright, (it should have been *Wrong*,) have a holy horror at the Yankee practice of borrowing idle funds to be employed in securing peace and prosperity through public profitable improvements, but are delighted with the British idea of the credit system if employed on volunteer corps, Jonathan D. Stevenson, California, and Glory with its tile drum and trumpet. When will real Democrats open their eyes to the difference between honesty and patriotism, and cant and hypocrisy?

Mr. Hoffman yesterday, added all the interest on the debt of the State, to the debt, included the endorsements of the Canals and Railroads made by companies, whether paying interest or in arrear—all this interest was calculated for many years ahead, to make a formidable array of figures. What a figure Mr. H. would cut in Congress if he were to add the Van Buren and Wright FLORIDA, to the Polk-Wright MEXICAN Debt, with the interest the United States will have to pay for the next 20 or 30 years, and then deliver, in his peculiar style, a homily against man trusting his fellow men the people trusting Government, and the credit system! No man would go farther than myself in favor of economy—I have ever endeavored to check extravagance in expenditure—and would strictly preserve public credit by punctual fulfilments of pecuniary agreements—I abhor jobbing legislators, lobbies, and profligate governments, and would hold them up to public scorn—but hold it to be the duty of Government to provide for finishing the Canals. Experience has warranted this course, but not upon the profligate principle on which it is clear many contracts have been made.]

Mr. ARCHER asked who had petitioned for the stop and tax law of 1842? The People! No! The only petition he had heard of was the petition of the Board of Brokers of Wall-st. N. Y. Capitalists may be heard, have been heard, and would be heard, in their pecuniary agent on the floor of the Legislature, even if their counsel were not always followed. The People, the laborers—the working classes are not always listened to. The policy of 1842 was rather in accordance with the views of brokers and money lenders than of the wishes of the millions. He had no fear but that if the State should carry out its old and profitable policy of completing the Canals, New-York would, from its very advantageous position, distance every rival route, as it always had done. The State was losing half a million of dollars yearly on the amount already expended on unfinished works. He went into a statement to show that, by a proper financial policy, the Erie Canal Enlargement (7 feet deep by 70 wide, instead of 4 feet deep by 45) may be completed in 7 or 8 years. He referred to the assessed property of the State, over 900 millions—its real or substantial property worth 1,900 millions—its rapid increase—its commerce, manufacturers, and vast agricultural resources—and spoke ably and much to the purpose in favor of continuing the Public Works.

Mr. Archer concluded his argument by referring to your city—New-York—reminded gentlemen that property had risen there after the Erie Canal was finished—that commerce had greatly increased—that cities and villages had risen near the Canals—that an immense commerce had been secured to your city, from the interior of the State, from the Great West, from the Canada—and that, as in all other places it was the great interest of New-York city, that the Canals should go on, be upheld and prosper.

Sections 1 and 2 were passed over, and § 3 read:

§ The surplus of the revenues of the Canals, after paying the said expenses of the Canals and the sums appropriated by the two preceding sections, shall in each fiscal year be applied to the improvement of the Erie Canal in such manner as may be directed by law, until such surplus shall amount in the aggregate to the sum of $2,500,000 (two millions and five hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. HOFFMAN regarded the Erie Canal as being as much a local work as any of the other local Canals, and believed that every local work should be made from a local tax or revenue. He assured the Convention that it it violated this rule it would invite rapacity and the plunder of the general treasury. The Committee were charged with the duty of providing for the early payment of the public debt, and they supposed that two and a half millions might be gradually applied to improving the navigation.

Mr. PAULDING moved to amend § 3 by inserting after the word "Erie," the words "Black River." He was pledged to the policy of 1842, but if there was a surplus, Jefferson and Lewis Counties, which had been taxed for past improvements and derived no benefit from the Erie Canal, ought to have it for the Black River Canal. The Erie Canal was large enough for all time to come.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN offered an amendment, providing that certain surplus revenues should be applied to the enlargement of the Erie Canal, the completion of the Black River and Genesee Valley Canals, and for improving the Oneida River.

Governor BOUCK said the Committee was thin and moved to pass over the section. Lost. Only 16 supported Mr. Chamberlain's amendment—the noes were 38—present 54—absent 74—no quorum, but no objection was made.

Mr. CHATFIELD would be absent all next week. Otsego County had helped to build the Canals and had not derived the first cent of advantage from these works.—He wanted the section struck out and the surplus revenue, after paying the debt, to be at the disposal of the Legislature. The Canal revenues had increased and would increase. The Committee refused to strike out.

[.—Ayes 29, Noes 37.

The 4th section [Hoffman's Report, No. 1.] was read, and no objection made to it.

Section 5 was read:

§ 5. The claims of the State against any incorporated company to pay the interest and redeem the principal of the stock of the State loaned or advanced to such company, shall be fairly and duly enforced, and not deferred, released or compromised; and the moneys arising from such claims shall be set apart and applied as part of the sinking fund provided in the 4th section of this article, *and in the case of individuals, be credited to the several funds respectively from which the money was loaned.*

[The remaining documents are in *Italic*.]

The Convention adjourned.

Mr. Hoffman's friends planned and urged on the Erie Canal enlargement—then made political capital by abusing it. On March 26, 1839, Messrs. W. C. BOUCK, JONAS EARLL, Jr. JOHN BOWMAN and W. BAKER, Canal Commissioners, thus apologized for their enormous and predicate contracts:

"We regard the enlargement of the Canal as a work to develop the enterprise, the public spirit and resources of the State, a work which in future ages will be regarded as a monument of great wisdom and foresight in the present generation; a WORK CONTAINING within itself the germ of REMUNERATING THE STATE FOR ITS COST, AND SECURING TO ITS CITIZENS A PROFITABLE TRADE, and also of yielding aid to other works. . . . The enlargement would so cheapen transportation as to save the people of this State half a million of dollars annually, and they renew their opinion of 1838, that the Enlarged Canal would soon give in tolls at the present rates, three millions annually."

Mr. Hoffman's friends urged the State to enlarge the Canal—15 millions were expended by their recommendation—the Southern slave-owners, and their Wall-st. allies then joined the very men who had talked as above to cripple the state, dry up its resources, and obtain power once more for "the party." The result is matter of history.

In Mr. Hoffman's speech at Albany in Nov. 1843, he says that the failure of 11 safety fund banks "carried with it half a million of the old Erie Canal funds and a quarter of a million of Canal tolls." Who joined Polk as one of the 40 in Washington to grasp the national treasury for these pet banks? Hoffman. Who chartered them? Hoffman's friends. Who recommended an issue of 7 millions, to lend the Democratic pets, for the enlargement of the Canals? Hoffman's colleague, Marcy.

A Code of Laws.

I alluded yesterday to Mr. Campbell P. White's proposed plan, which he offered, and withdrew, after the President had declared it to be in order, without even asking a vote. Popularity here is obtained by speeches and motions and propositions and resolutions, many of which the movers do not dream of using except as a puff with the public. I could not have imagined any thing equal to the intrigue and management which obtains in a legislative body here. Wherever there is power there will be dabterers—and it is a testimony to the honesty of the People that those who deceive them have to appear faithful and true. No part of these remarks do I apply to Mr. White, but I do not see why he withdrew the most important motion of the session, after getting credit for a friendliness to Reform. I know the certain sections and propositions of the Judiciary Committee, or its members, were written by Lawyers who have no voice in the Convention, and who were opposed to reducing the law to order and system.

Mr. WHITE's scheme, which he did not allow to come to a final vote, was in these words:

§ —. The Governor of the State, at