# NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

## The Fire at Providence—Death of Mrs. Jenkins.

The *Providence Journal* of Wednesday gives the following particulars of the distressing calamity which occurred in that city on Tuesday night, and which we briefly announced in this morning's edition:

The fire was first discovered about 3 o'clock in the morning by Miss Sarah Jenkins, who with her sister slept in the south-west room of the second story. She gave the alarm, and Mrs. Jenkins, and her son, Moses Brown Jenkins, who occupied the north-west room, both rushed into the chamber occupied by the two sisters. They found the room full of smoke, and the house in flames. They first attempted to escape by passing down stairs, but the heat and smoke drove them back, and they returned to the chamber. One of the servants who had escaped from a back chamber, came under the window and brought a ladder by which Moses descended. The youngest daughter leaped from the window upon the roof of the porch over the front door, from which she was afterward taken by a ladder.

The bodies of Mrs. Jenkins and of her daughter Sarah were found in the morning, in the cellar, among the ruins of the house. The probability is that they perished from suffocation, and before the flames touched them. The other persons in the house escaped. It was rumored that a seamstress, whose name we did not learn, had also perished, but she escaped, unhurt, we learn, through the manly exertions of John C. Rockin, a young man in the employ of Calder & Phillips.

All this time the room in which Mrs. Jenkins had slept was safe, and but for the fatal mistake of crossing to the other room, all would have probably been saved.

When the people who first arrived from without reached the spot, the flames were bursting through the windows, and had obtained such control over the building that no efforts could have saved it. The house was large, built of wood and open on all sides. The engines were impeded for want of water, and in a short time a solitary chimney, standing like a ghastly monument amid the ruins at its base, was all that remained of the house. The origin of the fire is unknown. There are many rumors, but none them rest on good foundation. At half-past ten, a servant went into the cellar and found everything safe.

Mrs. Jenkins was 59 years of age; her daughter Sarah was 22 years of age. Mrs. Jenkins was the daughter of William Almy, and the grand daughter of Moses Brown, from each of whom she inherited wealth that she devoted to the noblest purposes. She was an eminent member and minister of the Society of Friends, but her sympathies were not bounded by sect or creed, and whenever there was suffering of body or mind, there she found her place and her mission. She had lately returned from a visit to Europe, where she had gone for religious purposes. On the passage home she remarked to an intimate friend that her work seemed to be accomplished, and spoke with especial reference to her ministry. She had spoken but once in the meetings of the society since her return, and that was on the last Sunday, when she delivered a most impressive discourse upon death, and upon passing through the dark valley.

## Dreadful Scene at an Execution.

A Rockingham (N.C.) correspondent of the *Fayetteville Observer* gives the following scene at the execution of a man named Robert Hildreth, at that place, on the 21st inst.:

The axe glittered, the trap-door falls, and Hildreth swings by the neck. For half a minute he remains motionless. Is he dead? Can his own weight without having fallen one inch, have broken his neck? No! Poor fellow, he expended one pang, and that his last! but the fatality which often leads Sheriffs to gross negligence in executing the law, must cost him now a world of woe. With a convulsive effort he reaches the platform, and stands on earth again alive. The cap has fallen from his face. The blood was already fast rushing upwards. But his large and muscular neck prevented the rope from tightening. Even then his neck bones did not leave him. He spoke without complaint, in a clear voice, that was heard with awe by every ear: "Come here and fix the rope—it won't choke me to death!" The Sheriff did go to him. First with an axe, then with a piece of scantling, he endeavored to knock away the boards. At last he pushed Hildreth's feet from the scaffold, and hung him ineffectually a second time. The poor fellow made no further efforts to recover himself. Finding that he was hung in a way which produced the most excruciating, because gradual suffocation—with the blood slowly collecting in his brain, through a circulation only partially impeded—the unfortunate man, compelled by the pangs which momentarily grew greater, drew up the legs as high as possible, then, with all his force, threw them down to tighten the cord. Three several times at intervals of a minute, he did the same again. Then his struggles ceased—his own executioner, he became unconscious of pain. The scene at Rockingham, or a similar one, is appalling, disgusting, abominable in a frequent occurrence. It is wholesome, almost without exception, wherever capital punishment is inflicted in North Carolina.

AN AERIAL BRIDGE—ANOTHER OF THE WONDERFUL DISCOVERIES OF THE AGE—MAY BE—The *New Orleans Courier* of the 12th inst. is responsible for the following description of a bridge, a model of which is now on exhibition in that city:

"It may be remembered that about six months since, Mr. Remington and his self supporting bridge were the subjects of extended and commendatory notice in the English papers, extracts from which were published about that time in the United States. This gentleman has recently arrived in this city, and has erected in the barroom of Bank's Arcade for public inspection, a model of his wonderful bridge. It is undoubtedly an extraordinary result of mechanical genius.

The first impression on seeing it is, that it is constructed on principles, hitherto unknown to the student of natural philosophy. It certainly appears to set the laws of gravitation at defience. It extends across the barroom, a space of 96 feet, and is elevated some ten feet from the floor. Its appearance is so fragile that few men, judging from this alone, would willingly trust themselves upon it. Yet while there yesterday after noon, among a number of other spectators, we saw ten gentlemen all together on the center of this bridge. It will be noticed that it has no support from the ground. Its resistance as well to gravitation as to the pressure of so many persons, being secured by the principles on which it is constructed. Yet notwithstanding this great weight, its deflexure was very inconsiderable.

From a memorandum handed to us by Remington, it appears that the bridge has a span of 99 feet. This space is crossed by four longitudinal supporters, each less than one inch square at the center, but increasing gradually to size, until at the ends or points of fastening, they are 2½ inches square. The bridge has one catenary and two parabolic curves, by which strength and beauty are both secured. The flooring is stitched diagonally, and is made to sustain a portion of the strain. The deflexion of the supporters is 2½ inches. It is capable of bearing the pressure of seven tuns; while each of the supporters, occupying their place in the bridge, will sustain a weight greater than the absolute strength of the timber and the direct cohesion of its fibres.

Mr. Remington states that if one of his bridges were cut through transversely at the center, the parts severed would neither slide nor separate so much as to render it impassible. He informs us, beside, that a bridge on this principle could be made to span a space of a mile and a half."

SOCIETY IN PHILADELPHIA.—The *Daily News* states the estimated population of Philadelphia at the present time, to be 350,000; or, in other words, 70,000 families. Of this number only 2,000 families have a competency for support above manual labor; 20,000 depend upon mechanical and professional branches; and the residue of 47,000 is divided into two parts—33,000 who labor, or are desirous of laboring, and 17,000 who resort to illegitimate and criminal means for a livelihood. Of the latter class, 6,000 are supposed to be beggars; 4,000 who depend upon the offal of the streets and what they can collect from the kitchens of the wealthy; 3,000 who steal, 1,000 who starve for want of any kind of support, and 3,000 who follow a promiscuous livelihood. Such is the state of society in Philadelphia, and the elements which compose it.

A SLAVE CASE.—The case of Driskell vs. Parrish, which has excited considerable interest in some parts of Ohio, was brought to a close on Thursday last, before the United States Court, sitting at Columbus, by the Jury rendering a verdict for $500 against the defendant. The suit was brought by Driskell to recover the value of certain slaves which he alleged the defendant prevented him from capturing in Sandusky City, in February, 1845. Messrs. N. Bolt and Stanberry were counsel for the plaintiff, and Messrs. Lane and Corwin for the defense.

THE ESTIMATES.—We have thought we should be consulting the public interests by making known the fact, obtained from an official source, that, in the amount of revenue which will be requisite to meet the expenditures of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1850, and June 30, 1851, there will be a deficit of between $15,000,000 and $20,000,000. This deficit will not have been occasioned by any insufficiency of the current revenue to meet the ordinary expenditures of the Government, but by the extraordinary expenditures growing out of the Mexican War, and the Treaty with that country. [Wash. Republic.

STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT.—The steamer St. Paul from St. Louis, bound to New Orleans, struck a log off Hat Island, on Sunday evening, breaking every timber on the larboard side. She immediately sank to her main deck. She had on board a large cargo of produce. Boat and cargo valued at $60,000.

MASS MEETING OF A NATION.—By resolution of the National Council of the Cherokees, the entire Cherokee Nation was to have assembled on the 5th, to decide upon some plan or adopt some measure to relieve the Cherokee Nation of debt.

MAIL MISSING.—We were informed yesterday that the mail which was made up at the Post-Office in this city on the 3d inst. and which should have reached New York on the 5th, has not been heard from. It contained drafts and checks to the amount of $12,000 or $15,000. [Oswego News.

☞ The *Troy Post* of Tuesday says, in relation to the rejection of the vote of Stephentown, "The returns, with all the proceedings and facts were, by a resolution of the Board, sent to the State Canvassers, who can pass upon the whole matter again."

☞ Mr. Wm. Monroe has become associate editor of the *Lexington (Mo) Express*. From some remarks in the Journal, we infer that it will hoist a great while hoist the "Gradual Emancipation" colors, and advocate the extinction of Slavery in this State. It is to take a leading position among the Whig papers. [Boonville (Mo.) Democrat.

☞ The Philadelphia Bible Society has issued, during the past year, 10,030 Bibles and 9,330 New Testaments. The total number of issues since the organization of the Society, 23,747 Bibles and 30,949 New Testaments.

☞ JOHN P. BIGELOW, Esq., the present Mayor of Boston has been nominated by the Whigs for reflection.

☞ Hon. W. J. Brown, member of Congress from the Indianapolis District, is lying dangerously ill at his residence in Johnson County, Ind.

### Board of Education—Nov. 21.

Robert J. Kelly, Esq. President, in the chair.

*Primary Schools.*—A communication was received from J. McKeon, Esq. County Superintendent, as follows:

The system of primary instruction, as pursued in several of the primary departments of the ward schools, is, in my judgment, exceedingly defective, and capable of enormous improvement. Some of them are too large and unwieldy, and some of them have not the necessary means at hand for efficiency in the instruction. The means at hand for efficiency in the instruction. The smaller children. I might instance particular schools to which these objections apply, but it might seem invidious, and perhaps operate injuriously upon the attendance and prosperity of the particular schools mentioned. I shall be happy to communicate with any committee whose duty it may be to designate such improvement as may be needed.

Referred to the Committee on Visiting Schools.

*Fifteenth Ward.*—A report, pursuant to former call, before referred back, was received, stating that the cost of a lot for the proposed new school-house will be $12,500 to $15,000, and of the building about $14,000, calculated to hold 1,000 to 1,200 scholars. The Ward School Officers propose to appropriate the school exclusively to the instruction of females, in the primary department, where will be received infants of both sexes, and should the Board deem it best, the other school (No. 20, in Thirteenth) shall be devoted, except the primary department, exclusively to boys. Laid, for the present, on the table.

The Finance Committee reported in favor of appropriating $2,000 for deficiency of schools in Twelfth Ward; $912 92 for schools, 16, in Seventh Ward; $7,000 for site of new school in Ninth Ward; $1,000 for school in Twenty-third; Eighteenth Ward; $599 31 for Society Educating Colored Children Schools. Adopted.

A report for $1,170 for deficiency in Sixth Ward Schools was laid for the present on the table, and for $1,719 for deficiency in Fourteenth Ward, referred back for further particulars.

On the application to erect wings on school-houses in Tenth Ward, the Committee on Buildings modified Ac. ...ess to permit the alteration and improvement of classrooms.

Several applications for deficiencies in six ward schools, &c. were referred.

Resolutions were offered and adopted, requiring all applications for deficiencies hereafter to set forth the amount and particulars of debts incurred, and also that such be set forth by all the schools in their annual report, and the name for which each debt is contracted.... Also, by Mr. Davis, Sixth Ward, that the Public School Society have no right to establish new schools, or to remove any now existing under their charge, without the previous consent of the Board of Education. Laid on the table—the Board then adjourned.

### Court Calendar—THIS DAY

CIRCUIT COURT—Nos. 30, 32, 51, 57, 662, 54, 56, 669 67, 68, 90, 92 to 100.

COMMON PLEAS—Part I—Nos. 73, 79, 81, 83, 87, 91, 93 95, 9, 15, 21, 25, 43, 51, 77, 81, 89, 77, 33, 61. Part II—Nos. 98, 94, 112, 114, 156, 148, 160, 162, 164, 166.

### Law Courts.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.—Before Judge Nelson. *Benjamin G. Walker vs. Silas C. Herrick*—Trespass on the case to recover damages. This was an action of the plaintiff, by which the defendant was charged with the plaintiff from the commencement of the suit, the full amount claimed, with interest. For plaintiff, J. L. Phelps, Jr. and Bradley; for defendants, Brandreth and Boardman.

Before Judge Ingraham.—*Chas. H. Hoyt vs. Abel Harker.* Trespass for taking roofing on a building of Chas. Church in Sixth street, New York. The defence was that Mr. H. agreed with Mr. Neffler, the landlord of the premises, to remove that Mr. Harker agreed, after the sub-contractor failed, that Mr. Hoyt would go on with the work, he should be paid. Verdict for plaintiff, $88, subject to opinion of the Court. For plaintiff, Messrs. Dwight and Mr. Carter and Messrs. Martin, Strong and Smith.

*Boring & Wilcox vs. C. W. Laurence, Collector*—To recover a small sum received of duty alleged to have been overpaid, under protest, on an importation of vermicelli. It having been charged 25 per cent, as a manufactured article, while it was claimed to be specifically designated in the Tariff at uniform 20 per cent. Verdict for the plaintiff, subject to opinion of the Court—For plff. Mr. J. S. McCulloch; for defn. Mr. Hall.

The Jury were discharged till Friday week.

CIRCUIT COURT.—Before Judge Hurlbut—*Peace M. Nathans vs. Napoleon—Magdalene N. vs. Peace N.*—Cross suits for divorce, already referred to. This case was discontinued.

A young woman named Mary Koth testified to having lived with Dr. Andrews, who occupied part of the house to which Dr. Hickern's slave in Varick st. was kept, and to have seen improper conduct between Schull and Mrs. Nichlen.

Mrs. Andrews, (wife of Dr. A.) also testified to having seen improper conduct. The witness was questioned to the time when she first communicated the circumstances to Dr. N.

The counsel for Mrs. N. contend that the allegations against Mrs. N. were brought up on account of her assisting a suit against Dr. N. for assault and battery.—To be resumed this forenoon.

SUPREME COURT—Decisions.—*General Term.—L. B. & J. S. Mellen vs. Pre E. Arnold*—Mr. A was possessed a claim for debt, contracted on a promise to pay cash for a lot of boy from steamboat Hudson, but did not, a short time after, sue for his arrest. Under circumstances defendant cannot be held to bail, and must be discharged.

SUPREME COURT.—The Court has published the assignment of Judges for the General and Special Terms, Oyer and Terminer, Circuit, and Common Pleas, for 1849 and 1850. It is possible, however, the Judges will be called frequently to exchange with Judges out of town. As to the Circuits, all the causes of fact will be placed on the Calendar for December, on the first week of which they are to be tried. After that the Calendar will be pruned, and usually disposed of by calling the Calendar, as the Judges will be in town. There are also regulations for saving costs in certain cases, &c.

COMMON PLEAS.—*Judge J. S. Mye against Lawrence McGovern and James Conway*—Action for the seduction of the plaintiff's daughter. Defendants admitted the fact of seduction in January, last, at Ann Arbor, for one whole term. On the 21 July, 1848, the defendants discharged the plaintiff from their employ and paid him for the time that he actually served. This action is to recover damages for the loss of his daughter. The Jury, this morning, gave a sealed verdict for the plaintiff for $200 and the full amount claimed, with interest. For plaintiff, J. L. Phelps, Jr. and Bradley; for defendants, Brandreth and Boardman.

Before Judge Ingraham.—*Chas. H. Hoyt vs. Abel Harker.* Trespass for taking roofing on a building of Chas. Church in Sixth street, New York. The defence was that Mr. H. agreed with Mr. Neffler, the landlord of the premises. To this it was rejoined that Mr. Harker agreed, after the sub-contractor failed, that Mr. Hoyt would go on with the work, he should be paid. Verdict for plaintiff, $88, subject to opinion. For plaintiff, Mr. D. Evans and Mr. Mancock. For defendant, Messrs. Morris & Chatfield.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.—*Thursday.*—In the case of Joseph C. Ashley, indicted for forgery, a commission was applied for and granted, to take the testimony of a witness for the defence, now residing in Cincinnati, and a stay of proceedings granted until the second Monday in December, when it was agreed to be specially designated in the Tariff at uniform 20 per cent. Verdict for the plaintiff, subject to opinion of the Court—For plff. Mr. J. S. McCulloch; for defn. Mr. Hall.

The Jury were discharged till Friday week.

CIRCUIT COURT.—Before Judge Hurlbut—*Peace M. Nathans vs. Magdalene