NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

LAW COURTS.

Circuit Court....FRIDAY, April 25.

James Harcourt agt. *Henry Van Hovenburgh.*—Suit by late Deputy Health Officer against late Health Officer, to recover about $10,000, alleged to be due on salary, but denied, already referred to. The Jury could not agree, and were discharged.

Superior Court.....FRIDAY, April 25.

Before Judge Sandford.

Henry J. Lettman against *Rocco Ritz.*—The parties are Germans, and were formerly partners in the cabinet manufactory business. The suit is for slander, in defendant saying of plaintiff he was a bad man and asserting that plaintiff and plaintiff's sister lived together as man and wife and had offspring. The defendant merely denied having made the assertion, but it was said he had done so repeatedly. Defendant wished to show circumstances in mitigation, but not having set up any justification, he was not permitted to do so. The Jury found a verdict for plaintiff of $3 00.

Cyrus W. Field & Co. agst. *Henry Bleidorn.*—Plaintiffs purchased of Mr. B. about 200 bales white cotton rags, imported from Hamburg, said to be of good quality. Plaintiffs resold them to different paper manufacturers in the country, and on opening the bales many of them were found to have, directly in the center, a quantity of poor cotton waste, and plaintiffs on being applied to made good the difference. They now claim of the importer, from whom they bought, said difference in value, the liability for which is denied. Verdict for plaintiff $148 79.

Before Judge Mason.

Michael Noonan, agst. *Charles M. Campbell.*—To recover damages for defendant following an individual through plaintiff's shop into his back room, assaulting the individual and breaking a glass and table of plaintiff's. The action is as to latter. There was an inquest in the case a few days ago, (that is, it was not defended) and the Jury gave a verdict for plaintiff of $50, but the inquest was set aside on payment of costs of inquest and the present trial allowed. The Jury gave a verdict for plaintiff of $37 50.

Court of General Sessions..FRIDAY, April 25.

Before the Recorder and Ald. Kelly and Morgans.

Plea of Guilty.—William Cunningham was placed at the bar charged with grand larceny, in stealing a watch and money amounting to $106 in value, from a shipmate named Henry Wilson. Cunningham pleaded guilty to grand larceny, and he was sentenced to the State Prison for two years.

Presentment of the Grand Jury.—The Grand Jury having completed their labors came into Court and made a presentment in which they alluded to the miserable condition of the City Prison, and its inadequacy to the purpose for which it is used, and the actual want of the institution. Juveniles, says the Grand Jury, are kept in cells with old and adept thieves. This is a lamentable state of affairs. The Grand Jury also refer to the want of proper accommodation to persons who are confined as witnesses, who, they say, are obliged to eat felon's food and sleep upon the felon's bed. Other abuses are complained of, and strong appeals made to the tender virtues to have the evils remedied.

Inducted.—Oakes Tirrell has been indicted by the Grand Jury for receiving $11,000 worth of promissory notes and Milwaukee and Mississippi bonds, alleged to have been stolen by Cryder and McKay. The accused was committed in default of $5,000 bail.

From the National Intelligencer.

Payment of Claims against Mexico.

Viewing the subjoined letter, relative to the payment of the awards lately made by the Commissioners on Claims against Mexico, to be of interest to all the parties concerned therein, we have obtained a copy of it from the gentlemen to whom it is addressed for publication:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, April 23, 1851.

GENTLEMEN: I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, making inquiries on the subject of the payment to the Mexican claimants under the awards of the Board of Commissioners recently sitting in this city, and particularly whether parties interested in awards made in the names of others can, upon proof of such interest, receive their respective proportions from the Department, or whether the whole amount must be paid to those in whose names they were made; and also inquiring the mode how, and time when, the payments would be made to the claimants. And, in reply, I have the honor to state that the 8th section of the act of Congress of 3d March, 1849, providing for the settlement of these claims, says:

"That in all cases arising under this act, where any person or persons other than those in whose favor an award has been or may be made, shall claim the amount so awarded, or any part thereof, and shall within thirty days from the passage of this act, or from the date of the said award, notify the Secretary of the Treasury of his, her, or their intention to contest the payment of the same so awarded, and shall file with the District Attorney of the United States a bond, with good and sufficient security, to be approved by him, for the payment of the costs and damages arising therefrom, the amount so awarded, and the payment of which is contested as aforesaid, shall be and remain in the Treasury of the United States, subject to the decision of the Courts of the United States thereon; and thereupon the said party so claiming the sum so awarded, or any part thereof, shall be at liberty to file his bill for relief and injunction in the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, upon the principles which govern Courts of Equity; and any injunction thereupon granted by the Court shall be respected by the Treasury Department; and the said case in equity shall thereupon be conducted and governed in all respects as in other cases in equity."

The language of this law is so clear and explicit that the Department cannot hesitate in its decision that the amount of the awards can only be paid to the parties in whose names they are respectively made, or to their duly appointed attorneys, unless adverse claimants think proper to adopt the legal course pointed out in the above section of the law of Congress, by giving notice to the Department and issuing the needful injunction. The point has been specially brought to the notice of the Department by the holders of scrip in the Union and Trinity Land Companies, which presents it in the strongest form; for these certificates show on the face of them the exact interest of the parties under the signature of the trustee in whose name the awards of these companies are made. The Department, however, has decided that it is not authorized to make any payments to the holders of such scrip, except they think proper to adopt the legal course pointed out in the above section of the law.

The provision of the law is also explicit that all amounts thus litigated must remain in the Treasury until there has been a final legal decision, and the Department would not feel authorized to make any payment in such cases even to a trustee who might be appointed by all the parties claiming an interest.

All the payments to the claimants will be made in cash, as the situation of the Treasury does not at present render it necessary for the department to resort to an issue of five per cent stock, which the low of Congress authorised it to create for the purpose of making these payments, and that stock will therefore not be issued unless the future necessities of the Treasury should require it. No payments on account of these claims will be made until the expiration of 30 days after the Board of Commissioners closed the awards, which was on the 16th inst, and during that delay parties who may have an interest in awards made in the names of others will have the opportunity of taking the initiatory legal steps to secure their rights, agreeably to the provisions in the section of the law already quoted.

The payments will be made only at those points where the Treasury may have disposable funds, as the Department does not consider itself bound to incur the risk and expense of transporting funds to other points for the accommodation of the claimants, but, otherwise, it will endeavor to meet their convenience so far as it is in its power. There will be no difficulty in paying any portion of these awards by Treasury drafts on the Assistant Treasurers at Boston, New-York, or Philadelphia, at the option of the parties, but such payments can only be made to a limited extent at other points. In all cases where the parties in whose favor awards have been made are indebted to the United States, the amount of such indebtedness will of course be retained by the Treasury, agreeably to the express provision of the 6th section of the act of 3d March, 1849.

Powers of attorney to receive any money under these awards must not only be legally and formally executed, but the signatures of the notaries or other parties before whom they may be executed, should in all cases be verified in conformity to the law or usage of the State in which such powers may respectively have been issued.

The preceding embraces replies to all the points alluded to in your letter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. L. HODGE,
Acting Secretary of the Treasury.
Messrs. Chubb, Schenck & Co., Washington.

NEWS FROM LIBERIA.—Files of the *Liberia Herald* with dates to the 5th of Feb., have been received. The annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church commenced its session at Monrovia on the 30th of Jan.—Rev. F. Burns (colored Missionary) presided. Great harmony prevailed among the members. On the 3d of Feb. the anniversary of the Missionary Society was held.

IMPROVEMENTS.—During the year 1850 several substantial buildings have been erected in Monrovia, and others were in the course of erection. Along the banks of the St. Paul all was bustle and activity at the brick yards.

REPORT OF A SLAVER.—Intelligence was received at Monrovia that a slave schooner had run in near the coast, a mile above Galleinas, and had communicated with the shore.

A BILL FOR ABOLISHING CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN MASSACHUSETTS.—In the House yesterday the following bill was reported:

Be it enacted, &c., If any person shall be convicted of any of the offenses described in the second section of the 124th chapter, or in the first section or in the eighteenth section of the 125th chapter, or in the first section of the 126th chapter of the Revised Statutes, they shall be punished by imprisonment in the State Prison for life, instead of the punishment of death, as is provided in the said sections. [Friday's Boston Post.

☞ The Convention of Delegates from the States Rights Association of South Carolina is to be held on the first Monday in May next, at Charleston. [Mercury.

We have not seen it announced, but presume Mr. Buchanan has received an invitation to address his friends in the South on the occasion above named.

[Lancaster (Penn.) Lancasterian, Locos.

MARRIED.

At Fort Miller, Washington Co., N. Y., April 21, by Rev. R Washburn, EDWIN A. BASSETT and Miss ELIZA ODELL, all of that place.

At Grid Seneca, Co., N. Y., on the 22d inst., by the Rev. A B. Dunlap, Mr. LEWIS WILSON to Mrs. CAROLINE DOOLITTLE, all of the same place.

DIED.

On Thursday, April 24, Mr. PETER VALLEAU, in the 82d year of his age.

The friends and acquaintances of his sons, Isaiah and William, are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, No. 29 Perry st., on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

On Thursday afternoon, April 24th, Mr. GEORGE BODDY, aged 48 years.

The friends of the family and also the members of the Mercantile Lodge No. 47, I. O. of O. F. are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, No. 54 Tillary st., Brooklyn, on Sunday, the 27th inst. at 10 o'clock, A. M. His remains will be taken to Greenwood Cemetery for interment.

On Friday, April 25, after a lingering illness, HENRY SILLECK, in the 42d year of his age.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral on Sabbath afternoon, at 2 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 192 Chatham st.

On Friday, April 25th, MARY LOUISA, daughter of John M. and Mary Trimble, aged 3 years and 4 months.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral without further invitation, on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, from 163 Grand st.

On Thursday, April 24, in the 56th year of his age, Mr. JAMES RUSSELL, a native of Ireland, and for many years a resident of this city.

The friends of the family, and of his son-in-law, Charles and Benjamin De Forest, are invited to attend his funeral at 4½ o'clock, on Saturday afternoon, from his late residence, No. 196 First av., one door south from E. 14th st.

At Kings County Hospital, Flatbush, L. I., [April 24th, of typhus fever ENOCH GREENE, M. D., late resident physician.

At Paris, April 7, EUGENE HEWEY, infant son of James H. and Elizabeth G. Deming.

In Milbury, Mass. April 16, Deacon HARVEY PIERCE, aged 88 years.

Passengers Arrived

In ship Creole, from New Orleans—Mrs Foster, Mrs Todd, two children and servant, Mrs Bruce, child and servant, Miss Burdock, Master Burdock and 58 steerage.

In brig Solomon Eaton, from Neuvitas—Mr Devine and lady, Mr J Pais.

In sch Martha Post, from Mobile—Mr and Mrs Cockin, Miss Ellen Dacey, Mr R C Hustis, Mr Walter Bark.

In sch J Vail, from Carthagena—Mr C L Gilon, Mr J Olmstead.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.....THIS DAY.

Sun—Rises.....5 05 | Sets.....6 50 | Moon—Rises.... 3 10m
HIGH WATER.....APRIL 26.
Sandy Hook.....4 18m | Gov Island....5 08m | Hell Gate....6 49m

MARINE JOURNAL.

PORT OF NEW-YORK.....APRIL 25.

Cleared.

Ships—Jerseme, Cobb, NOrleans, Eagle & Howard; Camden, Sherwood, Charleston, Dorman & Jones; Liberty, Peabody, NOrleans, J W Phillips; James Wright, Clark, Liverpool, J W Phillips; Warden, Bennett, Hull, Schmidt & Bahlen; Samuel M Fox, Ainsworth, Havre, M Livingston.

Barks—Peter Demill, Hoey, Savannah, Demill & Co; Stephani, (Brem) Lanoke, Bremen, Meyer & Stucken.

Brigs—Richmond, Gibbs, Savannah, Everett & Brown; Wanderer, (Br), Davidson, Windsor, J S Whitney & Co; Lucy Ellen, Smith, Saltillo direct, H D Brookman; Waterloo, (Br) Parker, St Johns, PR, Rivers & Baldwin; Emerald, Sprague, Boston, W S Reynolds; Atlantic, Wallace, Philadelphia; Brett, Vose & Co; George Clark, Rio de Janeiro, L H Aitken; Manila, (Br) O'Brien, Carbonar, N F, master Vesta, (Bremen) Hose, Cape Haitien, Poppe & Co; Markland, Norton, Gonaives, Benedict & Bro.

Schooners—Elizabeth (Br) M'Cloud, St Johns, N F, J R & G A Hamilton; Plato, Hammond, Baltimore, Mosher & Lord; Lillie Sanders, Little Washington, NC, N L McCready & Co; Margaret, (Br) Quallows, Halifax, G & J Lawrie & Co; John C White, Green, Barranca, M M Brennan & Co; Reseau, (Br) Mann, St Johns, NF, G & J Lawrie & Co; W R Gunn, Nye, Norfolk, James Hand; J Rusting, Dole, Philadelphia, J Hand.

Propeller Shark, Stuart, Philadelphia, J & N Briggs.

Sloop—Senator, Thrasher, Dighton; Oregon, Sturges, Providence; Gazelle, Vergason, Bristol.

Barges—Dolphin, Stackhouse, Philadelphia, W H Thompson; Laurel, Cohoney, Baltimore.

Cleared Out to, Leonard, Oswego, W S Rossiter.

Arrived.

Ship James Corner, (of Baltimore) Bennett, 14 days from New Orleans, mdse, C H Church. Left the bar April 10. The J C has been 6 days north of Cape Hatteras.

Ship Creole, Pierce, fm New Orleans, April 12th and the bar 13th; mdse, Frost & Hicks. Experienced westerly and northerly gales during the passage.

Packet ship Northumberland, Lord, London and Portsmouth April 26, mdse and 336 passengers, J Griswold. 13 Cabin passengers.

Ship James Nesmith, of Thomaston, Watts, Liverpool 24 ds, mdse and 444 passengers, R Kermit. Did in co with ships Adriatic, for N York; Roscoe, for do.

Bark Gray Hound, of Kingston, Mass. Wilson, NOrleans 17 ds, flour, Wm Fellows, vessel to Foster & Nickerson.

Bark Charlotte Wynne, Homes, St Marks 13 ds, cotton, C Anderson & Co.

Bark Reform, Livermore, Mobile 22 ds, cotton, Stanton, Clearman & Co. hashed heavy NW gales for the last 10 ds, and has been 8 ps to the N of Cape Hatteras.

Bark John Strood, Elwell, Cienfuegos 20 ds, sugar, J W Elwell. Had not heavy weather on the coast, and was 10 ds to the N of Cape Hatteras.

Bark Lyra, Burns, Havana April 9, mdse, M Taylor & Co. Experienced heavy gales from the S, which lasted 8 days, and had to run off of the time under close reefed topsails; and was 11 days north of Cape Hatteras. In the Gulf Stream saw several bales, casks and barrels adrift.

Bark Warren, of Thomaston, McClellan, Nassau, NP, 18 ds, J W Elwell. The W got ashore on Barnegat Shoals on the morning of the 23d, and was got off on the following day, without receiving any damage. Capt McClellan reports ship Cato, Robinson, from Liverpool for NOrleans, wrecked on Money Island. The passengers had arrived safe at Nassau, N P. The vessel and cargo a total loss.

Bark Mary H Kent, Tabran, (of Rockland) 14 ds fm Sagua la Grand, sugar, C W Trundy. The M H R has been 8 days north of Hatteras.

Bark Compeer, Tilton, 10 ds fm Callao, guano, Chastelain & Pontvert.

Brig Sir Richard Jackson, Doran, Buenos Ayres Feb 1, hides and wool, O G Hayes. Experienced heavy gales during the passage.

Brig Lyra, Burns, Havana 12 ds, sugar, Moses Taylor.

Brig Roderick Dhu, of Hallowell, Faulkner, St Marks 14 ds, cotton, E D Hurlbut & Co.

Brig Mississippi, Hearne, Glasgow, 19 ds, via St Thomas, mdse and 77 passengers—13 in the cabin—to Finch & Meincke. 20th inst, lat 38, lon 71, saw bark Lamoine, Prook, from Rotterdam.

Brig Sequanee, of Wadoboro, Young, Trinidad de Cuba, 25 ds, sugar and molasses, to master. Had heavy northerly winds most of the time. Was 18 days north of Hatteras. No date, in a gale lost main top sail, carried away bob stays, and sustained other damage. April 14, lat 30 50, lon 74 50, spoke schr Ontario, bound to Charleston.

Pilot brig Catharine, Jessen, fm Buenos Ayres, 83 ds, hides and wool, to Thorne, Waters & Co.

Brig Calcutta, (of Searsport) Clark, fm Cardenas, 18 ds, sugar and molasses, to Seymith & Son.

Brig Brig British Queen, Brown, 28 ds from Savanilla, with 150 tons Fustic, 1240 Hides, 10 tons Coffee to J C D Mere.

Brig Standard, Webb, 19 ds from Port au Prince, with Coffee and Logwood to J H Brain. 4 passengers.

Brig Angola, Howes, Guyamas, P R, 44 ds, Sugar and Molasses to J W Elwell.

Brig Live Oak, Steele, of Darien, Darien 12 ds, lumber, S Rockaway.

Brig Empire, (before reported,) Newman, Galveston 29 ds, cotton, Hussey & Murray.

Brig Solomon Eaton, Sparks, (bef reported,) Neuvitas Apr 1 7, sugar, Owen & Sons.

Sch Martha Post, Post, Mobile 16 ds, cotton, E D Hurlbut & Co.

Sch Eliza S Martin, Rorbach, Virginia 2 ds, oysters.

Sch Sarah Emeline, Tilton, York River 2 ds, wood.

Schr S Vail, Delano, (of Surprise) 40 days from Carthagena, mds, Everett & Brown. Left no American vessels.

Schr Flash, Crowell, 2 ds fm Philadelphia, coal.

Brig Schr Democrate, Clemens, 10 ds fm St Thomas, mdse, J H Brain.

Sch Lewis, Crowell, Belize, Hond, 26 days, mahogany &c, F Alexander.

Sch A J De Rossett, Brewster, Wilmington, N C, 48 hours, naval stores, Dollner & Potter.

Sch Henry Gibbs, Cushman, New-Bedford 2 ds, oil.

Sch Esther Burr, (of Brookhaven) Tuttle, Port Lavaca, Texas, 39 ds, cotton to master. 13th inst, lat 31 14 N, lon 77, 27 W, Cape Fear bearing NW by N, distant 55 miles, saw the hull of a vessel, supposed to have been a large schooner dismasted, water logged and abandoned. About 8 feet of her bows and 20 feet of her foremast were standing. Could see that she hailed from Cherrystone, but could not make out her name. She had both anchors on the bows, and both pumps gone, and appeared to have spring aleak. A steamship with white wheel houses, bound N, (probably the Florida from Savannah) was coming close by, bore down toward her, and then resumed her course.

Sch Sarah Elizabeth, Piermont, Alexander, 4 ds, coal, F Rowland.

Brig Schr Princess Royal, Doe, 12 ds from Bermuda, in ballast and 3 passengers to W A B Lawrence.

Schr Antelope, (of Brookhaven) Avery, 23 ds from St Jago (Cuba) sugar and coffee, Adams & Hawthorn.

Sch Julepe, (of Kingston) Chapin, 19 ds from Port au Prince, logwood, coffee, &c, J A Gimbel.

Brig Schr Enterprise, Theobald, 18 ds fm Halifax, NS, fish, J Hunter.

Brig Schr Democrat, Clemens, 10 ds fm St Thomas, hides, rum and molasses master.

Schr Mary C Ames, Page, 13 ds from Managua, PR, sugar &c.

Sch Volant, Osborne, Norfolk, 3 ds, mdse to Mott & Hedell.

Sch Martha Post, Post, Mobile, 16 ds, cotton to E D Hurlbut & Co.

Sch Rhode Island, Fairchild, North Carolina, 4 ds, shingles, bound to Newport. 22d inst, in a heavy blow, carried away head gear. Put in here to repair damages.

Sch Aeolus, Avery, 21 Jago de Cuba, 82 hds, sugar and coffee to Adams & Hawthorn.

Sch Abbott Lawrence, Allen, Boston, 3 ds, mdse.

Sch Bay State, Ryder, Boston, 3 ds, mdse.

Sch Mary Mankin, Lattimore, Savannah, 6 ds, mdse to Johnson & Lowndes.

WIND—At sunrise NE, at meridian SW, at sunset calm.

By Telegraph.

NEW ORLEANS, April 17—Arr ship Antarctic, NYork.
CHARLESTON, April 22—Cld sch Helen, NYork.
SAVANNAH, April 21—Arr bark Exact, NYork.
Cld sch Mayflower, Boston.
BOSTON, April 25—Arr ships Leodes, Manzanilla, March 24th; Medora, New Orleans, April 3d; Coquimbo, Calcutta, Dec 17.
Ship Judah, Truro, New Orleans, March 28. Saw April 18, off Cape Hatteras, ship Mary Ann, Appleschools for Boston.
Bark Lucanbie, Pernambuco, March 21st. Left bark J W Andrews, from Boston, arr 20th. Spoke April 5th, lat 24 41, lon 84 31, ship Mexico, North Pacific for New Bedford, 8th, lat 46 30, lon 83 30, Pioneer, do for do.
Barks Marion, New Orleans; Isaarden, Mobile; Elm, Lunenburg, and Vesta, Philadelphia; Avola, Charleston; Lowell, Baltimore, brigs Phenix, and Adelphi, Pernambuco, March 14th; Florence, and James Crosby, from Trinidad, April 1st; Alfretta, Savannah; Venture, Fernando, March 9th;