WHEAT AND FLOUR IN ILLINOIS.—A correspondent, writing us from Jacksonville, Ill., Jan. 15, says:

"The ruling price of wheat in Jacksonville, Ill., for the last six months has ranged from $1 to $1 40 per bushel; the medium price $1 20; but by far the largest part was bought for the lower price. The ruling price for extra superfine flour has uniformly stood at $8 50. This plan of putting on the extra and double-extra to superfine flour is one of the most double-extra humbugs and greatest cheats of the times. Formerly, superfine meant to qualify the best of flour, but the use and the abuse of names have entirely ruined confidence in both brands. Five bushels of prime wheat will make one barrel of superfine flour, and pay the miller handsomely for grinding; and since we have been dealing in extras, we will make extra allowance for the barrel and make 50 cents additional cost for it. Five bushels of wheat weigh 300 pounds, and no miller is fool enough to put more than 196 pounds of flour into a barrel, but may be smart enough at times to make a barrel a little less. We know not the freight of a barrel of flour to New-York, but if railroad companies would consent to act on the principle of live and let live, they might carry it 1,000 miles for $1 50. [We doubt that.—*Ed.*] Here we have the first cost of a barrel of flour delivered in New-York—$6 for the wheat and grinding, 50 cents for the barrel, and $1 50 freight—making $8 exactly, the current price of the soul of a Congressman, who charges $8 a day for doing nothing. Now, put the New-York price and the first cost of the barrel together, and tell me if one of the million of TRIBUNE readers can buy their flour at this rate. The reason is that consumers never buy of producers. To remedy this defect, the consumers must do what is so very practicable under our present system of cheap and rapid transit. Let a company be formed and every member guarantee to receive his full subscription, if he wishes it, in flour, pork, &c., at cost. They may then buy through some honest, competent man, get it ground, packed and shipped direct to their depot at the East; or you may send on your men, build your mills and pork-houses, and make a business of living at cost of production of food. Illinois produces the staple commodities of human life in vast abundance, and it seems to be a great pity, yea, more, a burning shame, that this abundance cannot reach the consumer without throwing away untold millions upon those who step in between producer and consumer, and are crying continually, like the daughters of the horse-leech, 'Give! give!' We have had the thermometer here this month 26° below zero. Pork is $3 50 and $4 per cwt.; wheat, $1 15 a bushel, and flour $8 50 a barrel."

INDIAN CORN MEAL AND CORN BREAD.—It is said that many more people would eat corn bread if they knew how to cook it. An "experienced housekeeper" has furnished us with some good receipts, which we commend to inexperienced housekeepers. A bushel of corn contains more nutriment than a bushel of wheat! The latter is not generally considered fit to eat unless ground very fine and bolted. It is a mistake, however. Indian corn treated in the same way is nearly spoiled. It never should be ground fine. Let that be remembered. Fine meal may be eaten when fresh ground, but it will not keep sweet. The broken oil globules become rancid and bitter.

Corn Cakes, made of meal and water with a little salt, mixed into a stiff dough very thoroughly, and baked on a board before a hot fire, or in a hot oven, or in little cakes on a griddle, till entirely done, are very sweet, wholesome bread.

Corn and Wheat Bread is wholesome and nutritious, and easily made—if you know how. Stir two tea-cupfuls of white meal in a pint of hot water for each loaf; free it of lumps, and let it stand twenty-four hours. Boil two or or three potatoes, peel and slice, and mash in a pint of water, which thicken with flour till it is stiff batter, and then add half a tea-cupful of bakers' yeast. You will use about one third as much meal, scalded as above, as you do of flour; knead the meal and yeast, and sponge, and add a little salt with the flour all together, and work it well, and mold in pans to rise moderately, and then bake, at first, in a hot oven. This bread will be moist, and more nutritious and more healthy than if it were all flour.

Buckwheat Cakes are improved by adding corn-meal, prepared in the same way, in about the same proportion as for bread. A little wheat flour may be added to advantage. Don't let your batter over-rise and sour, and never use saleratus if it does.

Corn-Meal Pudding may be made of yellow meal, stirred into scalded skimmed milk till as thick as gruel, and, when cooled, add ginger, cinnamon, nutmeg, salt, and sweetening to suit the taste, and a little fine-cut suet, and some raisins, or dried peaches, or a fine-cut apple. It should bake an hour, or more—according to size.

You who do not believe anything made of corn-meal can be good will please try this recipe for a pudding.

A HOME-MADE DRAIN-TILE.—Draining has become a necessity. Pipe-tiles are expensive; the machines are expensive and difficult for a green hand to manage. Anybody can make brick; hence anybody can make home-made tile for drains. The plan is given by E. Baker of Darke County, O., in *The Ohio Cultivator*. The pipes are made of concave brick. He says:

"I expect to make twenty-five thousand concave brick next Spring on the following plan, viz: My molds shall be eight inches long, five wide and three three thick. I shall take a piece of timber three inches in diameter and saw it lengthwise through the center, and fasten one half in the bottom of each mold; then mould in sand, with stiff mortar, and burn well. My method of laying down will be to put one in the bottom with the concave up, and another on top with the concave down. This will form a caliber or hole of three inches. If I have more water than this will pass I shall use two courses; and should I yet lack space, I will use two courses, placing them two inches apart, and placing one concave brick on top. This will make two holes of three inches caliber each, beside the cap in the center, which will be enough for quite a large swale. This will take something less than fifty brick to the rod, single course, with a cost of about ten cents to the rod, twenty cents for double course, and twenty-five cents for double course and cap. This calculation may be thought too low in proportion to the very high price at which brick are selling at this time; but this should not be taken as a criterion, as I believe farmers on their own land can make brick at two dollars per thousand."

A molder can make twenty-five thousand a week, and fourteen cords of wood will burn the kiln.

We like the plan. It puts tiles within the reach of every farmer who has clay on his land.

GRAND BRONZE CASTING OF WASHINGTON.—*The Springfield Republican* records the successful termination, on Monday last, of the casting, at Chicopee, of the colossal statue of Washington, modeled by H. K. Brown. *The Republican* says:

"The immense work has been cast in fragments, and that one just finished is the largest and most difficult of the whole, viz: the entire body of the horse. As the preparation of the mold has required considerable time, and great care, and as many hazards attend the execution of such a work, the hour appointed for the trial was one of no small interest to the contractors and those employed upon it. About 100 persons had gathered from the neighboring shops to witness the scene, wholly unprepared, however, for what followed. Soon after the hot metal began to flow into the mold, it commenced spirting with great rapidity from every crevice in the mold, and in all directions.

The workmen who stood upon and around it were enveloped in a shower of liquid fire, which burned their hands and faces and set fire to their garments, while the spectators fled in terror from the building. Mr. Ames, who was near by, ran in at this moment, and was so appalled at the sight that he wished to have the work abandoned. But the foreman of the shop, Mr. Langdon, anticipating a difficulty, had agreed with his workmen not to give up the object of their long endeavors if a desperate effort could save it. With courage that deserves great praise, they persevered and filled the mold, escaping only with slight injuries. We saw the monster horse, headless and limbless, lifted from his bed yesterday, and it was hailed as an entire success. The contractors may well congratulate themselves over their work, for it is the first and only achievement of the kind made in this country, and perhaps nowhere else, but in Munich, Bavaria, could so large a piece of bronze statuary be cast.

HOW THE COST OF LIVING IN THE CITY AND COUNTRY MAY BE EQUALIZED.

From The Evening Post.

Every head of a family in this city asks himself at least once every Winter why it is that household marketing here is so enormously high, while we are constantly hearing of the same articles being sold at various places in the country at almost nominal prices. The same question is daily canvassed now by some of our city readers, and with good reason. We are obliged to pay at either of our largest markets—and more at the corner groceries—from 2/6 to 3/ per pound for butter, from 15d. to 18d. a pound for chickens, quails $2 a dozen, beef and venison 18d. a pound, potatoes $1 a bushel, apples $2 to $2 50 a barrel, &c.

Now we will contrast these rates, taken from our Household Market Reports of last week, with the prices quoted in *The Express Messenger* of same date, from various towns in the State of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Canada West—all places within reach of some great channel of communication with this city, and all places at which the New-York Express Companies have agencies, a fact of which our readers will see the bearing presently.

In Monroe County, in this State, potatoes are selling at 37 and 38 cents a bushel—in St. Joseph's County, Michigan, for 30 cents. Butter is selling at several places in Ohio and Michigan at 15c., 16c. and 17c. a pound. Chickens are quoted in Bloomington, Ill., at 75 cents a pair; dressed poultry in the greatest abundance at 6c. and 7c. a pound, all through the West; and eggs, which are selling in New-York five for a shilling, are selling in any rural districts for 10c. and 12c. a dozen.

The Lancaster (Wisconsin) *Herald* says:

"We notice from the papers that game is over common plenty in all parts of the State. We see venison is sold daily in our street as common as pork and beef, and at about the same price. Prairie chickens, pheasants, quails, &c., are offered by the boys at our doors; chickens and pheasants at $1 to $1 25 ⅌ dozen; quail at 4©c., rabbits, $1, &c.

Now the question arises, why should the citizens of New-York be kept at starvation prices, with such abundance around them on every side? Where is the great advantage we promised ourselves from our railroads, if contiguity with the markets of the West only raises the price of our provisions?

The difficulty always has been—though, we hope, at least a partial remedy has now been found for it—in the necessity of employing so many middlemen before the commodity reaches the consumer, that its cost is more than doubled in a time of comparative scarcity. The people in the country, who have a small supply of chickens, eggs, or butter, cannot afford to bring it here themselves, even at present prices; they are obliged to sell to the agents of the country dealers, who scour the country for the purpose. These sell to the agents of the New-York wholesale dealers, who, in turn, sell to the retailers, who have to charge the consumer at least four distinct profits upon the original cost.

To avoid this taxation, which weighs equally heavy upon the rural producer and the urban consumer, a plan has been projected by one of our enterprising citizens, which appears to be full of promise, and of which we know at least enough to justify us in recommending our citizens to look into it.

Mr. Stimpson, the editor of *The Express Messenger*—a periodical devoted mainly to the interests of the express companies of the United States, and published by an association of which he is the president—has opened a depot at No. 33 Broadway, where he proposes to supply household produce of all kinds without the intervention or expense, either to himself or his customers, of superfluous middle men. As an officer of the Express Messenger Association, he is in constant correspondence with several hundred agents of the principal express companies, who advise him of the state of the markets in their respective neighborhoods, and, when directed, buy for him whatever they can buy advantageously. This they can attend to without interfering with their paramount duties as express agents, and with the cheerful co-operation of the express companies, whose freight receipts are thus materially swollen. For this service they receive five per cent upon the amount of their purchases. The companies charge an average of $2 20 a hundred for transportation, and Mr. Stimpson, for receiving and selling, five per cent more—in all, say, twelve per cent on the original cost. By this arrangement, dressed poultry, which is selling in the country at eight cents a pound, may be supplied to the consumer at eleven cents instead of eighteen cents a pound, and the best table butter at twenty-four cents instead of thirty to thirty-five.

Mr. Stimpson engages, as we understand by his advertisement, to sell to his regular customers at the cost price of the articles, plus these commissions, so that every one has an opportunity of knowing whether he is dealt with in good faith or not.

To supply him with the capital necessary to make his preliminary arrangements, and to secure a reliable body of customers at once, and without waiting for his plan to become experimentally known, Mr. Stimpson requires those who buy of him at the rates we have mentioned to deposit with him $25. This can be taken up at any time after sixty days in produce from his establishment. Those who do not subscribe will be charged such price as the commodities will bear in the market.

The merits of this plan, if faithfully carried out—and Mr. Stimpson's personal vouchers are of the most respectable character—are, that it gives the public the benefit of an extended agency, ramifying through the whole country; to which the projects of Mr. Stimpson are only incidental and therefore inexpensive, and which is entirely beyond the reach of any other produce dealer. The cost of such an agency as the express companies can furnish at a commission of only five per cent, would eat up the profits, provisions and all, of any one who attempted to organize it for this business alone. Hence the delay for so many years, since the necessity for it was felt, of perfecting a plan which should tend to equalize the prices of farm produce in the city and the country. If it is to be the mission of our express companies to accomplish this, their usefulness, highly as it has been appreciated, has been as yet but imperfectly developed.

AN ALBANY LADY IN PANTS.

From The Baltimore American, Jan. 25.

On Tuesday afternoon a person dressed in the garb of a man arrived by the Philadelphia train and stopped at Sherwood's Hotel, at the corner of Fayette and Harrison streets, registering her name as Charles Walters. The party had the features of a woman, but no suspicion was at that time excited. On Wednesday morning she came down stairs and called for breakfast, which was disposed of, and she sallied out into the city. While she was at breakfast the proprietor engaged in conversation with her, and as soon as she left expressed his suspicion that it was a female in male apparel. During the day the chambermaid moved the valise of the guest, when it opened, and a pair of corsets, such as worn by ladies, dropped on the floor.

This fact increased the suspicion; but nothing was said about it until night, when the intelligence was conveyed to the house that a female in the male garb had been arrested and conveyed to the Middle District Watchhouse. Learning that she was from New-York, a gentleman who had resided for a number of years in that city was permitted to see her and question her as to her parentage and life. She stated that she was not from New-Yore City, but from Albany, where her parents now reside; that her name is Caroline Walters, and she was induced to leave home to search for a young man named William Auld, whom she learned had come to this city.

She says she left home on Christmas day and went to New-York, where she purchased her male apparel; went to the house of a colored woman near the Crystal Palace, where she changed her clothing, cut off her hair, and then went to French's Hotel, where she stopped for several days. Not finding the object of her search in that city, she next went to Philadelphia, where she remained for some time, and there learned that the young man whom she sought was in Baltimore. She determined to prosecute the search, and for that purpose came on to this city on Tuesday evening, and was returning to her hotel on Wednesday night, when she was approached by Watchman Bernee, who charged her with being a woman.

She replied she was, and solicited his protection against several men who seemed to be following her. She says that her father is foreman in a large Gas Fitting establishment in Albany, and has no knowledge of her whereabouts. She also said that she visited Norfolk last Summer, and nursed the sick for several weeks. Her desire to return to her home seems to be strong, but says her father is an austere man, and never will forgive her for her conduct. She appeared to fully realize her position, and manifested penitence. She was seen by a gentleman from Albany, who says he recognizes in her the daughter of a wealthy citizen of that city. Her hight is almost 5 feet 2 inches, with fair complexion, blue eyes, and light hair, and rather large person for her hight.

She says she is 19 years of age. She was kept at the middle district watch-house, and yesterday morning, on consultation with the Mayor, it was determined to send her on to her parents, which duty High Constable Herring will perform to-day, and until that officer reaches Albany the truth or falsity of her statement cannot be known.

About 9 o'clock yesterday morning another person, having all the appearance of a female, but dressed in male apparel, called at Sherwood's Hotel and asked for Mr. Walters, and being told that Miss Walters was in the hands of the police, started for the Station-House, but did not go there. In appearance they were very much alike. There is some mystery about the conduct of these females, but it will, in all probability, be unraveled as soon as Capt. Herring reaches Albany, from which place the one arrested alleges she came.

A VOLCANO IN ARKANSAS.

CLARKSVILLE, Ark., Saturday, Jan. 5, 1856.

On the 3d day of December last a singular noise was heard here. It has been differently described by those who heard it as like a blast in a well, the explosion of a meteor, or a single distant clap of heavy thunder. So far as ascertained, the nearer the center, or place of explosion, there was a rumbling and a sensible vibration of the earth.

Much speculation was had as to its cause. It was not probable that it was thunder—for it was midwinter, and the sky was clear—nor blasting in a well, for people do not work in wells in the wet and wintry season. Upon inquiry, we found that the explosion had been heard as far as Fort Gibson, and generally it a circle, the diameter of which is 200 miles, and expected to find some notice of it in the papers of your city. The other day, Col. Logan of Scott County visited our city and gave us an apparent solution of the mystery.

It appears from his statement that Mr. Wm. Gipson, while bear-hunting on Christmas day, attempted to cross Dry Creek Mountain, situated in T. 5 N., R. 26 W., but found the mountain to be on fire. Gipson describes it as sending forth smoke at the top, which at night has a ruddy glare and is visible for miles. For several acres around the leaves appear to have withered on the trees during the Summer. The ground is heated, and on the sides of the mountain are numerous fissures through which hot vapor is constantly escaping. Gipson says that this steam or vapor was so hot as to be painful to the hand when held over it. He was so much alarmed that he did not venture far up the mountain side, nor did he state that there was a crater, or discharge of lava, &c. However, Cd. Logan has promised to visit the volcano, which is within five miles of his residence, as soon as he arrives at home, and write me a full and particular account thereof, which I will forward to you for publication, should you think it of sufficient interest to your readers.

But the knowing ones here say that the noise or explosion on the 3d of December last did not proceed from the volcano in Scott County, but from an eruption in this county, at a spot on the south side of the river, below Pittsburgh, and not far from the residence of Col. Hardwicke. A place has been lately found there where the earth has bursted or broken up, throwing out huge masses of rock, earth, &c. This latter supposition agrees with the supposed direction of the noise from this place. They say that the volcano in Scott County has been in an incipient state for eighteen months past; that the fact of Gipson stating that the leaves on the trees appeared to have witnered during the Summer, and the roots of the trees being gradually destroyed by the subterranean heat, antedate the day of the explosion heard lately. In further support of their opinion, they cite the fact that an eruption took place some ten years ago in this county, near the Newton County line, in T. 12 N., R. 23 W. It occurred during the night, threw up huge boulders of rock weighing several tuns, was heard at a great distance, and in fact was a small earthquake. So, too, some fifteen years ago, a tremendous explosion was heard in Yell and Johnson Counties, the cause remaining unknown until a short time thereafter, when a hunter, crossing the Magazine Mountain, found where it had been rent asunder—absolutely split in two, leaving a cleft or fissure varying from two or three feet to as many inches in width.

FIRST TRIP OF THE FIRST LOCOMOTIVE IN AMERICA.

William Wurts, esq. of Carbondale, Penn., communicates the following paragraph, clipped from an old newspaper, to the Carbondale *Transcript*. This paragraph confirms the statement of R. F. Lord, esq., published in the Port Jervis *Union*, a few weeks since, and apparently settles the question as to whom belongs the credit of having run the first locomotive steam-engine on the American continent:

THE TRIAL TRIP OF THE FIRST LOCOMOTIVE.—Major Horatio Allan, the Engineer of the New-York and Erie Railroad, in a speech made during the recent festival occasion, gave the following account of the first trip made by a locomotive on this continent:

"When was it? Who was it? And who awakened its energies and directed its movements? It was in the year 1828, on the banks of the Lackawaxen, at the commencement of the railroad connecting the canal of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company with their coal mines—and he who addresses you was the only person on that locomotive. The circumstances which led to my being alone on the engine were these: The road had been built in the summer, the structure was of hemlock timber, and rails of large dimensions notched on caps placed far apart. The timber had cracked and warped from exposure to the sun. After about 300 feet of straight line the road crossed the Lackawaxen Creek, on trestle work about 30 feet high with a curve of 350 to 400 feet radius. The impression was very general that this iron monster would either break down the road or it would leave the track at the curve and plunge into the creek. My reply to such apprehensions was that it was too late to consider the probability of such occurrences, there was no other course but to have a trial made of the strange animal, which had been brought here at great expense; but that was not necessary that more than one should be involved in its fate; that I would take the first ride alone, and the time would come when I should look back to the incident with great interest. As I placed my hand on the throttle-valve handle, I was undecided whether I would move slowly or with a fair degree of speed, but believing that the road would prove safe, and preferring, if we did go down, to go handsomely, and without any evidence of timidity, I started with considerable velocity, passed the curve over the creek safely, and was soon out of hearing of the cheers of the vast assemblage. At the end of two or three miles I reversed the valve, and returned without accident to the place of starting, having thus made the first railroad trip by locomotive on the Western Hemisphere."

THE LUZERNE HORSE-THIEVES.

We have received another letter from Mr. John Stewart of Old Forge, Luzerne County, Pa., giving us further information of the extensive gang of horse-thieves whose headquarters were established there, and whose operations extended from this corner of our State to the Central New-York State line. Three persons suspected of being leaders in the party have been arrested; one is under heavy bail, another is in the Lancaster Prison, and the third (John Rutter) is in our Jail on a charge of stealing a horse in Westmoreland County. A warrant has been issued for a fourth, who has thus far eluded arrest.

This break in their ranks arose from a correspondence with our paper, caused by our publication of a letter from Mr. Stewart to Mr. Postmaster Linhart, at Carrick, in this county—since when Mr. S. has received numerous letters of inquiry relative to stolen horses from various States—and has found owners for four valuable horses, stolen from Mr. George Setterling of Wilmore, Cambria County; David Sloan and — Johnston of New Alexandria, Westmoreland County.

The thieves have a system of correspondence and numerous stations on the route—extending from this neighborhood, by Indiana and Luzerne Counties in this State, at least as far as the Unadilla River, in Otsego County, New-York—and the difficulty of convicting them is increased by their mode of operating, by which honest, worthy men are frequently made witnesses in their favor. Some scoundrel steals a horse here and rides away. At some station on the route he publicly trades him for a horse stolen in New-York. Should either be arrested for stealing the horse found in his possession, he readily proves an alibi, and that he traded for him openly; and too often this defense, sustained by witnesses of good character, enables the scoundrel to escape justice.

In Luzerne alone, these *honest* horse-dealers have disposed of more than fifty horses—many of them young and valuable. It is believed many of these may be recovered if our exchanges will give circulation to these facts, and advise losers to send descriptions of the stolen animals to Mr. John Stewart, at Old Forge, Luzerne County, who has been the means of exposing the gang. Mr. Stewart, in his last letter, says:

"Dr. Speer, then of New-Alexandria, Pa., but now of the State of Missouri, had a horse stolen from him in 1853, valued at $250. John Brown and John Rutter brought the horses stolen from Dr. Speer and David Sloan to this place. Dr. Speer's when it came was nearly dead, and did die two or three days after its arrival. The saddle and part of the bridle which belonged to Dr. Speer, were found in the possession of Lewis Brown, who is now under $1,000 bail. These circumstances will be fully proven at the next term of the Westmoreland County Court, Mr. David Sloan having obtained competent witnesses, who were in the employ of Lewis Brown at the time he received the stolen property." [Pittsburgh Dispatch.

TWO CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.—About 3 o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in a block of wooden buildings on the river side of Water street, which consumed some three or four dwellings, and resulted in the death of two children (brother and sister) who perished in the flames. The name of the children was Burgess—the boy being about six years of age and the girl four. They were literally burnt to a crisp, and presented one of the most horrible and heart-rending sights which we have ever been called on to witness. Their parents, it seems, were out to a dance on the preceding evening (having first locked the little creatures in their bedroom), from which they returned in the morning to find themselves childless, bewail their sudden bereavement, and confront an indignant community. The children could easily have been saved fifteen minutes after the fire was discovered had the fact that they were in the building been known. [Elmira Adv., 26th.

REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE.

The members of the New-York State Central Republican Committee convened on Wednesday at the Astor House. In consequence of the detention of absent members, they did not proceed to the transaction of business until evening, when they organized by the appointment of the Hon. E. D. Morgan, Chairman, and Allen Munroe, esq., Secretary. The Committee consists of the following members:

New-York City—Edwin D. Morgan, Simeon Draper, James B. Taylor, D. Dudley Field, Joseph Blunt, James W. Nye.
Albany—John L. Schoolcraft, Deodatus Wright, Joseph Davis, John M. B. Davidson, C. P. Williams.
Troy—Abraham B. Olin.
Buffalo—F. G. Spaulding, Philip Dorsheimer.
Cooperstown—Levi C. Turner.
Herkimer—Standish Barry.
Binghamton—Levi Dimmick.
Delaware County—Stephen C. Johnson.
Onondaga County—Daniel T. Jones, Allen Munroe.
Ellicottville—A. G. Rice.
Medina, Orleans County—Silas M. Burroughs.
Rochester—S. P. Allen.
Wyoming County—Charles O. Shepherd.

The Committee then adopted the following resolutions unanimously:

Resolved, That two delegates from each Congressional District of the State be appointed to attend the Convention of the Republicans, to assemble at Pittsburgh, in the State of Pennsylvania, on the 22d of February next.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen constitute such delegates, with power to fill vacancies and add to their numbers if they think proper:

DELEGATES AT LARGE.

Preston King, Edwin D. Morgan.
Abijah Mann, Simeon Draper.

Dist. DISTRICT DELEGATES.

I. Minthorne Tompkins, John A. King.
II. Philip S. Crook, Chandler Starr.
III. William Curtis Noyes, Joseph Blunt.
IV. James H. Titus, D. D. Field.
V. Wm. M. Evarts, Hiram Barney.
VI. Edmund H. Miller, Marshal O. Roberts.
VII. A. Oakey Hall, J. B. Taylor.
VIII. T. S. Berry, Geo. W. Blunt.
IX. Robert P. Getty, Moses H. Grinnell.
X. B. H. Mace, Geo. M. Grier.
XI. Eliakim Sherill, Henry Wnykoop.
XII. J. D. La Montayne, John S. Gould.
XIII. J. J. Viele, Gideon Reynolds.
XIV. Bradford R. Wood, Clarkson F. Crosby.
XV. Charles Huges, Samuel Freeman.
XVI. Jas. S. Whalon, Amasa C. Moore.
XVII. Charles G. Myers, Ezra Graves.
XVIII. Platt Potter, Aaron W. Hull.
XIX. Z. Goodrich, Levi C. Turner.
XX. Palmer V. Kellogg, Richard Hurlbut.
XXI. Benj. F. Rexford, Giles Hotchkiss.
XXII. Dewitt C. Littlejohn, Luke Hitchcock.
XXIII. Daniel Wardwell, E. A. Brown.
XXIV. V. W. Smith, J. J. Briggs.
XXV. Christopher Morgan, Robert Ennis.
XXVI. Wm. A. Sackett, Wm. M. Oliver.
XXVII. Ezra Cornell, Charles Cook.
XXVIII. Daniel H. Bissell, A. B. Dickinson.
XXIX. Wm. S. Bishop, Wm. Buell.
XXX. Trumbull Cary, Philip Church, jr.
XXXI. Silas M. Burroughs, H. J. Stowe.
XXXII. E. G. Spaulding, Philip Dorsheimer.
XXXIII. Reuben E. Fenton, H. A. Risely.

JUDGE BALCOM'S FIRST CHARGE.—Our recently elected Judge for this District held a Term of the Circuit Court at Delhi, Delaware County, week before last. His charge to the Grand Jury was an able one, and is highly spoken of by several of the papers in that county. The charge, among other matters, adverted to the decisions on the Prohibitory Law in the various Judicial Districts of the State, and to the law as touching imported liquors in "original packages," with great clearness and candor. He said he would not then express any opinion of his own to the Jury as to the constitutionality of the law, for it was not the proper time for the Court to determine any such question. That were he then to decide the law constitutional, persons accused of violating it could with propriety claim that their cases had been adjudged without argument and without a hearing; and that if he then should pronounce the law invalid without hearing the prosecuting counsel on the question, he would be disrespectful to the legislative branch of the Government, and besides no appeal would lie from an opinion given in a charge to the Grand Jury. That all he would then say to the Jury was, that it was not their duty or within their province to pass upon the validity or constitutionality of the law; that they must presume it to be constitutional and binding upon them, and act accordingly. That if they should find that the law had been violated and present indictments therefor, then the duty would devolve upon the Court to decide all questions, if any, that should be raised as to the validity or constitutionality of the law.

The grocers and hotel-keepers of Delaware County having all shut up their bars, the Grand Jury happily had no occasion to find any indictments for violations of the Prohibitory Law.

A WINDFALL.—A gentleman in Buffalo returned to his house about 12 o'clock one evening last week, after having enjoyed the bewildering excitement of a "grand party." His step betrayed a peculiarity of situation that was not altogether the result of mental excitement. After reaching his house and being about to lock up for the remainder of the night, he was attracted by a noise in his yard, and on looking out saw two persons harnessing a horse to his cutter. He endeavored as best he could, in his peculiar state of feeling, to remember to whom he had loaned his sleigh—thinking as a matter of course that the persons were some of his friends who were about to enjoy a sleigh-ride. Not being able to remember the circumstance of having promised the use of his cutter to any one, he stepped out to make the inquiry and thus relieve himself of the further effort of attempting to exercise a faculty which was *slightly* "bewildered." At his approach the persons fled in alarmed haste, leaving the horse and harness as it was. The result was that the owner of the cutter came thus unexpectedly in possession of a horse, for which as yet no owner has appeared. We relate this simply as a singular circumstance, and not for the purpose of encouraging owners of cutters generally to discompose their faculty of remembrance, as it is not at all probable that so fortunate a result would follow, even though you might succeed in avoiding lodging in the Witch-House. Our policemen are sharp fellows, and will detect the slightest deviation in a man's footsteps at an almost incredible distance.

MANNA SUGAR.—The following interesting letter was handed over to the Commissioner of Patents by Dr. Bernhisel. It is from Mr. Aaron Daniels, who resides in Provo City, Utah Territory, and is dated August 11, 1855:

"According to agreement, I send you a small cake of the sugar made from the sirup or honey found on cottonwood trees, and, as you requested, will give you a few particulars concerning the manner in which I discovered it. As I passed along to and from my cornield (which is situated about one mile from town) I discovered a white substance on the cotton-wood trees, which, upon examination, I found to be a sweet subsance, somewhat resembling the honey-dew in the States, but in far greater abundance, and possessing other properties, some of the cakes being as thick as a knife-blade or window-glass. I thought, from the quantity there was on the trees, that sugar might be made of it, and signified the same to a number of my neighbors, who all ridiculed the idea; so I thought I would try and see what I could do with it. I took home two bushels, and washed the twigs, and then strained and boiled down the water, which made one and a quarter pound of sugar. Since that time most of the town have been at work. Some families have made as high as 100 pounds of sugar. It makes excellent molasses, and as good vinegar as I ever saw. I averaged about eighteen pounds a day with two three-gallon kettles."

Although the quantity of sugar made from this sirup is small, yet we are assured that it is still profitable, from the fact that sugar in that region of country is worth *forty cents* a pound. [Union.

CRIM CON.—We stated, yesterday, that a fellow had been arrested in this city on a charge of seduction. *The Syracuse Standard* gives the particulars of the case as follows:

"A crim con case is creating some excitement in certain circles in this city. The parties are Mr. Updegraff and Mrs. Evans. The husband of the lady left his wife here to learn music while he went West to transact some business, and when he came back he found her absent. It seems that she had conducted herself so improperly that the proprietor of the boarding-house at which her husband had left her felt compelled to send her away, and she made a visit to Utica. The gentleman who is charged with improprieties with her also visited Utica, and it is suspected that they indulged in illegitimate pleasures on that as well as other occasions. Mr. Updegraff has been arrested in an action in the Supreme Court, on the complaint of Mr. Evans, and held to bail in the sum of $5,000 to answer to the charge. [Utica Telegraph, 29th.

HIGHLAND PATRONYMICS.—The following table gives the meaning of the names of the principal high land clans in Scotland: McIntosh, the son of the First; McDonald, the son of Brown Eyes; McDugal, the son of Black Eyes; McOnnechy, of Duncan, the son of Brown Head; McGregor, the son of a Greek Man; McCuthbert, the son of the Arch Druid; McKay, the son of the Prophet; McTaggart, the son of the Priest; McLeod, the son of the Wounder; McLean, the son of the Lion McKinzie, the son of the Friendly One; McIntyre, the son of the Carpenter; Campbell, Crooked Mouth; Cameron, Crooked Nose; Stewart, High Stay or Support.

THE TEXAS DEBT BILL.—A letter from Austin dated Jan. 7, announces the passage of the Texas Debt bill in the Senate of that State by a majority of three. Its friends are sanguine of its success in the House at an early day.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

This Society met last evening—HENRY GRINNELL, esq., in the chair.

The paper of the evening was "The Decimal System and its application to Weights, Measures and Numbers," by Mr. John Felton of England. The lecturer ably illustrated the defects of the present system and the superiority of the decimal system, in conjunction with our decimal currency, in simplifying commercial transactions of all kinds, as well as doing away with most of the difficulties which beset the study of numbers. The following are Mr. Felton's Decimal Tables:

WEIGHT.

10 grains	1 scruple.	10 lb	1 stone.
10 scruples	1 dram.	10 stones	1 cwt.*
10 drams	1 ounce.	10 cwt	1 ton.
10 ozs	1 lb.*		

MEASURE.

10 grains	1 scruple.	10 pints	1 gallon.*
10 scruples	1 dram.	10 gallons	1 anker.
10 drams	1 gill.	10 ankers	1 tun.
10 gills	1 pint.		

DRY MEASURE.

10 pints	1 gallon.	10 bushels	1 quarter.
10 gallons	1 bushel.		

CLOTH MEASURE.

10 points	1 nail.	10 nails	1 yard.*

LENGTH.

10 seconds	1 inch.	10 feet	1 rod.
10 inches	1 foot.*		

NUMBER.

10 units	1 decade.	10 thousands	1 myriad.
10 decades	1 hundred.	10 myriads	1 plum.
10 hundreds	1 thousand.	10 plums	1 million.

LAND MEASURE.

10 links*	1 staff.	10 roods	1 chain.*
10 staves	1 perch.	10 chains	1 acre.*
10 perches	1 rood.		

*Quantities marked with an asterisk are unchanged.

At the close of the Lecture, the Rev. JOSEPH LEAVITT, editor of *The Independent*, complimented Mr. Felton in the highest terms, and thought that his system need only be known to be generally adopted. He moved that the lecturer receive the thanks of the Society. His motion was adopted.

On motion of Mr. JAY, the subject of memorializing Congress upon this subject was referred to the Council, and the meeting adjourned.

COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES.

The Committee on Ordinances met at the City Hall last night, Mr. WATROUS in the Chair.

The first business under consideration was the petition of the carmen that the ordinance relative to them be so altered as to authorize the licenses to be issued to residents of the State, and not confining them to a residence in the city and county. Still under advisement.

The propriety of creating a new Bureau in the Street Department, to be known as the Bureau of Inspection, and to have full charge of the execution of all public works of construction and repairs in this Department, next came up. Argument was heard in favor. Laid over.

The draft of an ordinance for Collecting and Removing Ashes, Garbage, &c., was discussed at length, but no decisive action was had.

The Committee then adjourned.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

THURSDAY, Jan. 31—Ald. I. O. BARKER, President, in the chair, and a quorum present.

Law Department.—A communication was received from Lorenzo B. Shepard, esq., Counsel to the Corporation, in answer to a resolution as to how an officer nominated by the head of a department, whether by a majority of all the members elected, or by a majority of a quorum of the Board of Aldermen. The Counsel says that "a majority of a quorum is competent to confirm." The law requires that "the department "shall nominate, and by and with the consent of the Board of Aldermen appoint," &c. A quorum can transact business, except the passage of a law, which requires a majority of all the Members elected.

From the Counsel to the Corporation, in answer as to "whether a person nominated by a head of a department or "bureau can legally discharge the duties of the office to which "he has been nominated and claim the salary for the same "without first being confirmed by the Board of Aldermen." The Counsel says a nomination by a head of a department or bureau is clearly not an appointment. The statute makes the consent of the Board necessary, and it "*cannot be dispensed with.*" "No "person nominated to the Board for an office can legally discharge the duties of the office without confirmation. It follows from this conclusion that no such person can claim the "salary attached to the office. The salary is due to the officer, "not to the person who performs the duties of the office as a "mere volunteer."

These were ordered to be printed.

An Up-Town Post-Office.—A Message was received from the Mayor, transmitting copy of correspondence that had taken place between himself and the Postmaster-General relating to the establishment of an up-town Post-Office. Ordered to be printed.

Reports Concurred in.—Confirming the contract for stationery made by the Controller. To advertise for a lot for Engine Company No. 15. To donate $250 to the New-York Eye and Ear Infirmary. To pay E. W. Davis $300 for reporting official proceedings of the Board of Councilmen.

City Hall—A report was concurred in requesting the counsel to draft an act to send to the Legislature for authority to raise $1,000,000 by stock for the purpose of building a new City Hall, and to appoint three commissioners to superintend the work.

Washington's Birthday—After a debate the resolution appropriating $2,000 to celebrate Washington's birthday was concurred in.

The Board adjourned to Monday.

THE CHURCHILL BRIBERY CASE.

This case was continued yesterday morning at the Mayor's office before Justice Osborne.

Mrs. Moore was recalled and examined at some length by Mr. Clinton, counsel for the accused, but no new points of interest were elicited.

Samuel Moore, the husband of Mrs. Moore, was next called and cross-examined by Mr. Clinton, his direct examination, as will be recollected, having taken place before the Mayor some time ago. Moore testified that in May last or the latter part of April he left the city, since which time until within a month past he has been out of New-York; he could not tell how often Churchill had been at his house since he was admitted to bail; could not say if it was more than once; Churchill did not converse on any particular subject; did not remember hearing him converse with his wife; Churchill had never made any agreement with him to give him (C.) money in the cases pending against him or his wife, or either of them; he gave his wife some money but did not know or had no suspicion that it was to bribe Churchill with; did not know that he gave it to her to bribe Churchill with.

Q. Did you give her money for the express purpose of having it given to Mr. Churchill on the night of his arrest. A. Yes, but I never heard of bribery till I saw it in the paper.

Q. At the time you gave it to her did she tell you