any branch of the Government could give it validity. If the Constitution thus marked with fraud is forced on the people of Kansas, there will be no longer peace. The worst of all tyranny has been practiced toward them. Their rights have been trampled down, and self-government has been denied them; but they will proclaim in a voice of thunder that resistance to tyranny is obedience to God.

Mr. BURNETT (Ky.) said that the Republican party made itself responsible for all the trouble and revolutionary spirit in Kansas, by sending armed emigrants to exclude from the Territory Southern property. Those who advocated the Topeka Constitution, which was begotten in a hot-bed of treason, now undertake to upbraid the friends of the Lecompton Constitution, which comes here in pursuance of law. Such hypocrisy has no parallel in the history of the world. The party which declares that there shall be no more Slave States will ultimately attempt to carry out its principle in the Slave States themselves. The time is rapidly approaching for action, and when the question is settled there will be no necessity to read men out of the party, for every one, whether in the North or the South, will have his true position assigned him.

Mr. BLAIR (Mo.) said that those who were elected as friends of the President, and the President himself, have fully exposed his forfeiture of his pledges, that the people of Kansas should decide the character of their own institutions. Hateful as is the design to force on Kansas a Constitution abhorred by her people, by low and mean frauds, hateful as are the crimes which have held Kansas in subjugation, still more hateful is the design, deliberately formed, to extend, by conspiracy, Slavery to the whole country. Under the decision of the Supreme Court, in the Dred Scott case, the Government has contributed power to drive white men out of Kansas to make way for Slavery. There was a time when the Democratic party took ground against the privileged classes, but now it arrays itself against free labor, and in favor of those who seek to wrest territory from freemen, and plant it with slaves. That party is as much the tool of the Slave Oligarchy as the negroes themselves.

Mr. WORTENDYKE (N. J.) said that the people were heartily disgusted with this ceaseless agitation, and the best policy is to throw the negro question out of Congress at the earliest possible time. For this reason he would vote for the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution. It being republican and sanctioned by lawful authority, he could find no reason for a contrary course.

Mr. POTTER (Wis.) attributed the present agitation to a violation of the pledges of the Democracy by repealing the Missouri Compromise, thus opening the Territory to Slavery, which gives no repose to its victim, white or black. He spoke of the Lecompton Constitution as the Juggernaut of Slavery, an infernal machine, invented by devils to crush out the manhood of its victims; and alluded to Mr. Calhoun as a depraved and villainous man, who called to his aid the basest tools to aid him in his unholy designs. The President in his Kansas Message had indulged in false and intemperate accusations, and had in an undignified style endorsed atrocities, frauds and swindles. In justifying the Free-State movements, Mr. Potter rejoiced that the spirit of 1776 was not yet extinct, and that Americans would still rebel against tyranny and oppression.

The House then adjourned.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE....ALBANY, March 23, 1858.

The President appointed the following gentlemen as a Grinding Committee:

Messrs. Noxon, Ely, Sloan, O. B. Wheeler, Foote, W. A. Wheeler, Williams and Wadsworth.

The bill to improve the discipline and promote the efficiency of the military was ordered to a third reading.

NOTICES OF BILLS.

By Mr. SPINOLA—A bill for the protection of hotel keepers.

BILL INTRODUCED.

By Mr. DOHERTY—A bill granting the Loan Commissioners in the County of New-York increased compensation.

BILLS PASSED.

Bill to prevent public officers from accepting or using free passes on the railroads in the State.

Bill to allow Henry Ruggles to build piers and bulkheads in the city of Brooklyn.

Bill to reduce the capital and change the name of the Mechanics' Bank of Williamsburgh.

Bill relative to the laying out roads through unenclosed and unimproved lands.

Bill relative to the City Hall in the City of New-York.

Bill relative to frauds on the Canal revenue.

The bill relative to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was recommitted to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. STOW introduced a resolution requesting our Representatives and Senators to vote no more public lands away until some just and equitable plan is devised by which the original States shall receive a fair share of the said lands, or proceeds of the sales thereof. Laid over.

The Metropolitan Police bill was then taken up.

EVENING SESSION.

The bill to provide for the payment of protested canal drafts was debated during the session.

ASSEMBLY.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, considered the bill to prevent disturbance at religious meetings; also the bill relative to steamboat piers and slips in the City of New-York; also the bill relative to a Sanitary Police in the City of New-York; also the bill to exempt firemen from $500 assessment—all of which were debated and progress reported.

Mr. SEELEY gave notice that a meeting of the Special Committee on the bill to abolish the office of New-York City Judge would meet on Thursday, at 3 p. m.

The bill fixing the school year, and in relation to public instruction, was debated until the adjournment for the evening session took place.

EVENING SESSION.

Gen. Van Rensselaer and Adjt. Gen. Townsend sent in a report from the Board of Commissioners to adjudicate the claims of the State Militia, in the way of explaining the reasons of the delay, stating that many duplicate claims have been received, requiring time to examine, and recommending filing of the claims in the Controller's office.

The Attorney-General reported, in relation to streams of water which have been taken by the State as public highways, that in his opinion the owners of such streams, they not being navigable ones, are entitled to full compensation from the State for the use thereof.

Mr. HANFORD moved to extend the privileges of the House to the Mayor of Brooklyn. Agreed to.

The bill increasing Notaries Public in New-York was ordered to a third reading.

The Controller sent in a communication relative to the expenditures of money on the South Bay Bridge, stating that the money had been expended on a certificate of a majority of the Commissioners, and that the strength and durability of structure was certified to by a competent Surveyor.

BILLS PASSED.

Bill to pay the Croton Aqueduct Department for water supplied to Sing Sing.

Bill to enlarge the power of the Board of Supervisors.

Bill to extend the time for the payment of taxes in certain towns of Kings, Queens, and Richmond Counties.

Mr. ENGS introduced a bill relative to Public Education in New-York City, the bill is prepared with a care to preserve the City School system. It does not shorten the term of the present officers, except where there are new no schools. The Board of Education is to consist of twenty members, five from each district, and not members of the local Board. Ten Trustees to be elected from the Aldermanic Districts, two each year, for five years, the Inspectors to be nominated by the Mayor. To meet quarterly, and to have charge of licensing teachers of Normal schools.

The Free Academy to be intrusted to a Board of Ten Trustees nominated by the Mayor, to serve ten years. The Evening Schools to be placed in charge of the local boards.

Industrial Schools to be provided for.

The Board of Education is thus deprived of the patronage which sometimes is improperly used; checks are provided for all expenditures; annual estimates are to be made of the average attendance, and stringent regulations are provided in regard to supplies.

The Sunken Steamer Palmetto.

BOSTON, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The steamer Palmetto, which was wrecked on Block Island on Sunday morning, is fast breaking up. Portions of the cargo will be saved by floating ashore, consisting mostly of flour, grain and tobacco. She sunk in seven fathoms, her masts remaining out of the water. The cargo was valued at $100,000. She had but four passengers, two of them were ladies, and with the crew, had barely time to save themselves in the boats. Captain Baker remains at Block Island. The passengers and crew left Newport last night for New-York.

Messrs. Fisher & Co. of this city had $16,000 worth of tobacco in the Palmetto, which is well insured.

From Texas.

NEW-ORLEANS, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

Later advices from Texas report that there is every prospect of fine crops there. *The San Antonio Herald* reports the seizure and imprisonment by the Mexican forces of several citizens of Webb County. Their release had been demanded by Capt. Brackett, United States Army, and a meeting of the citizens had been held, protesting against this and other outrages.

Sailing of the Canada for Liverpool.

BOSTON, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The Royal Mail steamship Canada will sail from this port for Halifax and Liverpool at 2 p. m. to-morrow (Wednesday). Her mails will close at 11 a. m. Persons wishing to forward telegraphic dispatches can have the same put on board the steamer and promptly delivered in Europe by calling at the Boston office, No. 21 Wall street, up to 1 p. m. to-morrow.

Non-Arrival of the Niagara.

BOSTON, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

We have been unable to communicate with Halifax since 8 o'clock this evening, from some unexplained cause, but at that hour the Niagara, now about due at that port with a week's later news from Europe, had not been signaled.

Army Movements.

ST. LOUIS, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The Leavenworth Times of the 19th says that, yesterday morning, two companies of infantry and two of cavalry left the Fort for Utah. They design overtaking Col. Hoffman and the escort of the supply train for Col. Johnston's army from Fort Laramie; this train consists of 100 heavily laden wagons.

The Republican publishes extracts from a private letter from Col. Johnston to a friend in this city, dated February 5. He says he has received no communication from the Government since the 22d of October. He complains that the contractors take more than three months to carry the mails to Utah, when their contract says the service shall be done monthly. Col. Johnston describes his march to Camp Scott, compliments his troops, and says the Mormons have, as fully as words and actions can, manifested the intention that they will no longer submit to any Government but their own, and that the people of the Union must either submit to a usurpation of their territory, and have a government erected in their midst acknowledging no dependence upon or allegiance to the Federal authority, or act with vigor and force to compel them to succumb. He expresses an earnest hope that every exertion may be made to forward supplies early in the Spring, under a sufficient guard of mounted men.

Horrible Massacre.

NEW-ORLEANS, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

A schooner from the Ruatan Islands reports the massacre of 150 of the inhabitants by the Indians.

Loss of the Steamer St. Lawrence

CINCINNATI, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The steamer St. Lawrence, from Pittsburgh for New-Orleans, struck on the rocks near Pomeroy, Ohio, on Sunday, and sunk.

The boat was valued at $20,000, and is a total loss. A portion of the cargo will be recovered in a damaged condition. No lives were lost.

Col. Forney Lecturing.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 23, 1858.

Colonel Forney lectured here last night, and was listened to with marked attention by a large audience. After the lecture he was greeted by a large number of the leading Democrats, when he left for Lawrence County.

Later from Rio de Janeiro.

NEW-ORLEANS, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The bark Agnes has arrived from Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 4. The bark Brazilliero, which had sailed from New-York, had returned to port leaky. The Agnes spoke the ships Grey Eagle of Philadelphia, John Elliott, and Connecticut.

She also fell in with the ship Martines from Boston on fire. Her crew had been taken off by the Charlotte E. Tay of Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania Legislature.

HARRISBURG, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The Lecompton resolutions passed the Senate to-day by a vote of 18 to 11. Only one Democrat voted in the negative.

The Weather at Toronto.

TORONTO, C. W., Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

Collingwood Harbor is now quite clear of ice.

Opening of the Upper Mississippi.

PRAIRIE DU CHEIN, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The Upper Mississippi River is now open. The first boat for St. Paul leaves to-day.

The Ohio River.

CINCINNATI, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The water in the River here measures 20 feet, and is rising.

Boston Weekly Bank Statement.

BOSTON, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The following are the footings of our Bank Statement for the past week:

Capital Stock	$31,960,000	Due to other Banks	$5,934,000
Loans and Discounts	51,999,000	Deposits	19,179,000
Specie	7,735,800	Circulation	5,163,500
Due fm. other Banks	6,057,700		

Ship Ashore.

BOSTON, Tuesday, March 23, 1858.

The large ship ashore on Great Ledge, below New-Bedford, is supposed to be the John Gilpin or Mary L. Sutton. The steamer Eagle has gone to her assistance.

Forenoon Weather Reports.—MARCH 20.

[By the Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern Lines—Office, No. 21 Wall street.]

MONTREAL, C. E., 8 a. m.—14; cold.
BALTIMORE, Md., 8 a. m.—Wind E.; 43; cloudy—spits of snow.
NEW-YORK, noon.—Wind S. E.; ther., 46; bar., 30.150; cloudy.
BANGOR, a. m.—Wind N. W.; 19; clear.
EASTPORT, a. m.—Wind N. W.; 13; clear.
CALAIS, a. m.—Wind N. W.; 14; clear.
PORTLAND, a. m.—Wind N. W.; 30; clear.
ST. JOHN'S, N. B.—Wind N. W.; 18; clear.
SACKVILLE.—Wind N. W.; 19; cloudy.
CHARLOTTETOWN.—Wind W.; 17; cloudy.
HALIFAX, N. S.—Wind N. W.; 22; clear.
YARMOUTH.—Wind N. W., 24, clear.
WASHINGTON, noon—Wind N. E.; 41; commenced snowing at 6 a. m. At Smithsonian Institute at 7 a. m., 40; bar. 29.95.
BOSTON, noon—Wind W.; 39; clear.
ELMIRA, p. m.—Wind N.; 40; clear.
HOESELLSVILLE.—Wind W.; 48; clear.
PORT JERVIS—Wind W.; 43; mild.
BUFFALO, N. Y.—Wind W.; 38; cool.
NEW-YORK, 8 p. m.—Wind N. E.; 35; clear.
TORONTO, C. W.—Wind N. W.; 24; clear.
NEW-ORLEANS, noon—68; cloudy—appearance of rain.
LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Wind N.; 56; clear.
TUSCUMBIA, Ala.—Wind N. E.; 58; bar. 29.20; clear.
MEMPHIS, Tenn.—59; clear.
NASHVILLE, Tenn.—57; clear.
PHILADELPHIA—Wind E.; 43½; clear.
BEDFORD, Pa.—Wind N. E.; 43; cloudy.
CARLISLE, Pa.—Wind W.; 40; clear.
CHAMBERSBURGH—Wind N.; 47; clear.

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PHILADELPHIA, March 23, 1858.

Every recent move on the political chessboard is ominous of an impending checkmate to Democracy. Last week the entire Opposition of this city, represented by two Conventions—one American, the other the People's—assembled in separate halls, but at the same hour of the same day, to nominate a Mayor and other city officers. The American Convention nominated first, and selected Alex. Henry to Mayor, after which they completed their ticket. To all these nominations the People's Convention responded with a wonderful unanimity by adopting the entire ticket. So complete a harmony of the Opposition was not generally anticipated, but it appears to be very cordial, and is not likely to be disturbed by any dangerous bolting. The People's Convention represented the great Republican party of this city, and embraced in its programme every fragment of the Opposition not specifically pledged to Americanism. It is not doubted that the nominees thus agreed on will all be elected, and a Mayor chosen for three years untainted by the Democracy of the present incumbent. The action of the Americans in Congress who came up so manfully to sustain the Republican opposition to Lecompton, has had the happiest effect on public sentiment here, and gone far toward cementing a union which now shows every indication of being a lasting one. I learn from various portions of New-Jersey that a similar feeling of fraternity is growing up there also. Clawson and Robbins, both members of the House from that State, are both Americans, and throughout the whole Kansas contest they have uniformly given to the Republican cause a firm support. It is evident that old asperities are dying out, and a new feeling of cordial cooperation taking its place. This feeling must continue to increase in strength and ultimately become universal, if the dogmatism of former times can be avoided. The Democrats see and acknowledge that a vast revolution is impending. But they are powerless to prevent it. Bound down as they are to sustain the measures of Mr. Buchanan, as the condition of retaining office now and of securing it hereafter, they see the sceptre departing from Judah without being able to prevent it. Within a week a new confidence has sprung up among us that the Lecompton swindle cannot pass the House, and that the peaceful settlers in Kansas will be saved from the necessity of resorting to open war in resisting its enforcement. This hope is founded on public as well as private advices from quarters able to give us reliable information. Mr. Buchanan's organ *The Pennsylvanian*, grows frantic at the prospect of defeat, denounces Bell and Crittenden as superannuated, who "gasp out their asthmatic and flaccid oratory," and calls the South Americans who repudiate Lecompton, "profligate Know-Nothing politicians, "who will vote on the main question as to the im-"mediate admission of Kansas as they may like. "We do not ask their votes." Here is a precious and significant admission by the Presidential organ, which foreshadows distinctly its consciousness of an ignominious defeat. The weak twaddle of this chattering journal is strongly contrasted by the vehement impetuosity with which *The Press* bears down upon and overhauls the whole subject of the Kansas swindle, sparing Mr. Buchanan, however, as the victim of a delusion instead of denouncing him as the leading conspirator, so that hereafter they may again coalesce, close the ugly wound at present existing, by a huge plaster rendered unctuous and healing by the soft influence of Treasury pap, and once more go on their way rejoicing. *The Pennsylvanian* enjoys the Government advertising and a contract for printing $100,000 worth of blanks. *The Press* enjoys literally nothing. What greater grievance could be mentioned for locofocoism to quarrel about? How much more tender is the pocket than the conscience.

There is no abatement in the fervor of the great revival now in progress among the churches in and all around this city. On the contrary, it is evidently becoming more general and intense. Vast crowds continue to assemble daily at Jayne's great Concert Hall, in Chestnut street, to indulge in prayer, and to listen to the numerous preachers of all denominations. Among these the Rev. Dudley Tyng, a low-church Episcopalian, is very prominent. These meetings number 2,500 to 3,000 persons. Persons of all faiths and creeds unite harmoniously by in prayer and singing. Telegraphic dispatches pass to and fro between the meeting and other assemblages in your city, so that both meetings may unite in simultaneously singing the same hymns. The enthusiasm of the occasion gives even to the telegraphic wires a new and heretofore undiscovered magnetism—the sympathy of Christian effort—for these messages of love pass over them free of charge.

At one of these meetings a clergyman stated that fifty members had been added to his church the previous Sabbath. Daily prayer-meetings are also held at Handel and Haydn Hall, and they, too, are prodigiously crowd. The same animated exercises and fervor prevail. At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a daily prayer-meeting is also held, to which all denominations of inquiring minds are publicly invited. At the Nazareth M. E. Church, meetings for prayer and Christian experience are held every afternoon, and are numerously attended. At this church the revival has been five weeks in progress, and three hundred have been added to the fold, one hundred of whom were men. At St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, prayer-meetings are also held every evening. In the churches all round this city the same miraculous awakening seems to prevail. It is by no means limited to those denominations which have aforetime been considered as especially given to indulge in revival excitements. On the contrary, it evidently embraces almost every form of church organization. In this unexampled conviction of the public conscience, the clergy are most laboriously active. Those who preach extemporaneously have new and onerous tasks imposed upon them, many of them preaching three times daily throughout the entire week. Yet they faint not, but seem to grow stronger day by day. All the newspapers, secular and religious, testify to the extraordinary number of persons added to the Church in this revival. Hereafter, no doubt, reliable statistics will be collected on the subject. It will be as interesting to be able to measure the results of this movement, as to identify its primary causes. The religious revival of 1858 is so remarkable for its simultaneous magnitude, that it will be pointed to hereafter as one of the epochs of the century. Whether the true measure of the good it may accomplish is to be ascertained by merely counting noses, is somewhat doubtful. History admonishes us that great national revivals have often followed great national calamities, and that they have also sometimes preceded them. The careful student of the signs of the times will not lose sight of the coincidences which exist everywhere around us, moral, monetary, but especially those of a political character.

You doubtless recollect the frightful accident on the North Pennsylvania Railroad some two years ago, when a long excursion train, filled with the children from several schools, was run into by another train, in consequence of which some seventy persons were killed, burnt or roasted alive, the conductor thereupon committing suicide. It was the most horrible accident recorded in the history of railroads in any country. The Company promptly settled all claims for damages wherever they found a disposition to compromise existed. One case, however, was beyond their reach, and has just been passed on by a Jury. The action was brought by parents to recover damages for the loss of a child killed on this occasion. Judge Knox charged that damages must not be speculative or fanciful, but that the pecuniary value to the parents of the child's life must be ascertained. None could be given for the distress and anguish of the parents in the loss of their child. But compensation may be given for any expenses attending the death of the child, such as medical attendance and funeral. In this case the parents received $106 from the beneficial fund. Damages may also be given for the loss of service of the child. On this point the Jury were told to apply their own discretion, the Judge declining to instruct them. The worth of the child to society and to the parents is one of pecuniary interest, but this is not a case for exemplary damages, as in case of fraud, oppression or malice. The Company gave correct and judicious instructions to their agents, which if followed would have prevented this shocking calamity, but the agents disregarded the instructions, hence no sufficient negligence was shown by the Company to justify the imputation of malice against them. Under this charge the Jury rendered a verdict of $400 damages in favor of the parents.

I have been twice to the Arch street Theater to witness the performance of the greatest historical jumble ever produced at any play-house, called the "Declaration of Independence." The scene is Philadelphia, and the Revolution is the time. But the author, whose name does not as yet appear, while producing a play which attracts large audiences, has been guilty of a multitude of anachronisms. His contempt for dates and probabilities is supreme, and greatly mars the satisfaction of the numerous old fogies who have been attracted by the play. The manager has been lavish of new scenery and costumes, and performed his part of the show in a style truly admirable. Many of these scenes are singularly beautiful. The fête champêtre on the banks of the Schuylkill is perfectly gorgeous. Then there are sundry brilliant reproductions of old buildings whose memory has now become historical, old costumes, and old things generally. The plot is no great affair, unless one abduction, one seduction, and two or three duels and death-beds can be called such. But a multitude of Revolutionary characters are brought out as it developes itself to the final Declaration. Among them, Dr. Franklin figures very prominently, but at the same time very inappropriately. The author shows him up as a stump speaker, addressing tavern crowds of mere ragamuffins, when it is well known that Franklin was never known to indulge in such a feat. But the great interest of the piece was concentrated on the scene representing the veritable Declaration of Independence. This was reenacted to the very life, was admirably done in every respect, and gives immense satisfaction. Trumbull's picture was imitated by living characters, with a fidelity that was truly marvelous. There were all the old Revolutionary fathers, clad in Revolutionary costumes, and the most prominent of them, by some unaccountable exercise of artistic ingenuity, reproduced with the most singular likeness to the deceased. You recognized the resemblance instantly. This Declaration scene is the great card of the play, and while its rare novelty attracted a good audience at the first, the fame of its fidelity has continued to attract larger ones since. As a play, it is unfortunately too dull to excite enthusiasm; but its patriotic spirit, fine scenery, and decided novelty, will no doubt secure for it a profitable run.

Real estate begins once more to show signs of activity. Though it frequently sells extremely low under the Sheriff's hammer, yet there are numerous sales taking place of first-class properties at full prices by private contract. Another feature of the business shows itself in a disposition among city holders to exchange for farms, many persons being anxious to get away into the country. I learn of numerous transactions of this kind having recently taken place. I hear, moreover, of many instances of single men, mechanics and clerks thrown out of employment, and of some with families, pulling up stakes and moving bodily to the West, most of whom are bent on acquiring farms and homesteads of their own, where city trials and revulsions can no longer reach them. In dry goods a lively business is beginning to appear in wholesale quarters, and our dealers are quite encouraged to hope that a better Spring trade will yet be done than was anticipated. Credits are decidedly shortened. Cotton goods are stiffening in price, but the manufacturers complain that cotton is too high for them. But the falling off of general business is strikingly exemplified in the diminished freight hence for the West over the Pennsylvania Railroad. For February the receipts of that road were $106,305 41 less than for January, or a total decrease of $24,801 72 in the first two months of this year from the corresponding months of 1857.

MARINE AFFAIRS.

THE OSPRAY GOT OFF.

The steamer Ospray, previously reported ashore on Plumb Island, was got off at 4 o'clock, p. m., on Monday, and towed into Greenpoint by the steamer Pelican.

THE BRITISH BARK MAJOR NORTON.

The pilot-boat George Steers, No. 6, arrived yesterday from a cruise, reports having boarded the British bark Major Norton of Arichat, Capt. Gerrier, from Halifax for this port. Capt. Gerrier reports, when 35 miles S. E. from Halifax, fell in with schooner Dart of Lunenberg bound to St. Peters, Miquelon, from Halifax, 12th inst., lumber loaded, hat been capsized evening of 12th, took from her Captain and crew in a frozen condition, and landed them at Peggy's Cove. Took the schooner in tow, but was obliged to cut her adrift. The names of those saved are: Capt. Samuel Gowan; John Nags, mate; William Dora and Huber Gorman, seamen; George Cole, steward.

The George Steers, No. 6, also reports, 23d inst. when off Montauk, passed a large number of barrels of flour, and boxes supposed to contain tobacco, probably from the deck load of some vessel, washed or thrown overboard in the late blow.

DISCHARGE AT THE NAVY YARD.

During the last few days there has been a very large discharge of the employees in the Gosport Navy Yard, numbering between 150 and 200. The discharged were mostly employed in the masonry departments and as laborers, in the department in which the appropriations by the Government had run out. It is rumored that as many more will shortly be discharged. We have been informed that there is stone and brick sufficient in the yard at this time to have kept all these men employed for three years, and that this injudicious expenditure in contracting so large a quantity of material, which was paid for out of the appropriation for yards and docks, is the cause of so many men being turned out, and left without the means of subsistence for themselves and families, which will create, doubtless, much distress in our community. The discharged men have been paid off. We understand that arrangements have been made to pay off all engaged at the Navy Yard, on the 26th inst., the regular payday. There is now one and a half month's pay due them. [Norfolk Herald, Saturday.

THE MONTREAL OCEAN STEAMERS.

Four new iron steamships are now building on the Clyde for the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company. These splendid screw steamers are to be named the Nova Scotian, North Briton, Hungarian and Bohemian; the first is already launched, and will make her first trip about June or July.

LIGHT-HOUSE FOR ILLINOIS.

A new iron light-house for the port of Chicago has just been completed in Philadelphia. From the base to the focal plane, the light of the building is 75 feet, and weight about 15,000 pounds. It will be removed to its destination in a few days.

GOVERNORS OF THE ALMS-HOUSE.

The Board met yesterday afternoon, W. SMITH esq., presiding, nine members present.

GOV. OLIVER rose to a question of privilege. Last week there was a debate here on a certain rum bill.

Gov. SMITH—*Liquor* bill, Sir; *liquor* bill.

Gov. OLIVER—It was rum or not-gut for all I know; but my object in rising is to disclaim all intention to charge Gov. Duke with falsehood. I merely stated that I though Gov. Townsend had not desired that the bill should be presented to the Board, and the result has shown that I was right in my deductions.

Gov. ANDERSON—I understand that Gov. Townsend did desire that the bill should be presented, and therefore I consider that Gov. Oliver's deductions are not correct. The Governor did charge Gov. Duke with falsehood in so many words, saying, when Gov. Duke stated that Gov. Townsend desired that this bill should be presented, that he did not believe it, and that it was "a question of veracity." I think Gov. Duke was right, and whenever he or any other subordinate is insulted, without an opportunity to reply, I shall uphold him or any one else when they are right.

Gov. OLIVER—I did not mean to make any such charge, and I should be very sorry to say so to any person.

Gov. GUNTHER—The apology is sufficient.

Gov. SMITH—If he did say so, he did not mean it.

The report of the Committee on the reconstruction of the Island Hospital came up for discussion. The report favored the erection of the building by day's work, and not by contract, the Department to furnish the necessary material, and sufficient convict labor to mix mortar, carry stone and sand, and otherwise assist the builders.

After a great deal of Buncombe debate, in the course of which Gov. Dugro playfully addressed one of the members of the Board as "vagabond," "villain," "a man of no character," "not to be believed under oath," the report was adopted, by a vote of five to four.

CUTTING OFF THE WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

Gov. ANDERSON said, Mr. President, I offer the following for adoption:

Resolved, That on and after this date, no liquors, wines or cigars be furnished in any of the institutions under the control of this Board, except on medical requisition.

Gov. OLIVER—I second the resolution.

Gov. MALONEY—I don't know why the resolution which the gentleman has just been the medium of presenting to this Board has been introduced. I ask for information.

Gov. ANDERSON—I have to say that I alone am the author of that resolution. It is based upon a state of facts which I think sufficient to warrant me in offering it.

Gov. DUGRO—Give us the information. Let's see who's been sucking around the institutions.

Gov. TOWNSEND (sotto voce)—Oh no! oh no!

Gov. PINCKNEY—I suppose the information to which Gov. Anderson alludes is open to any member of the Board?

Gov. ANDERSON (handing a sheet over)—Certainly, Sir.

Gov. MALONEY (taking the paper)—I suppose Mr. Duke furnished this?

Gov. ANDERSON—Gov. Duke prepared it at my request. I alone am responsible for it. I am fond of a glass of brandy and water occasionally, but this thing has grown to be perfectly enormous, and it is time that a stop was put to it.

Gov. DUGRO—Yes, let us cut them off—I get too much of them myself, sometimes. [Laughter.]

Gov. GUNTHER—I don't see any reason for departing from the rules of time-honored hospitality. When we take our friends on the Island I don't see why we should not give them a glass of wine or so, and I don't think the people wish us to be so niggardly.

Gov. MALONEY—I move to amend the resolution by adding

"and that no carriage hire be paid for members of this Board on and after this date."

Gov. GUNTHER—I agree to that, but when I go on the Island on Committee duty I want my glass of brandy and water, and I intend to have it, too. I am quite willing to do without carriages, but I don't mean to carry my bottle in my pocket.

Gov. DUGRO—That's where Oliver carries his.

Gov. OLIVER (significantly)—Better there, than in my head. [Laughter.]

Gov. PINCKNEY—I am opposed to abolishing carriages. After sticking out for two years in the Common Council for carriages, I don't think I am now ashamed to use them. When I want to go to the foot of Sixty-first street I intend to hire a carriage at the expense of the city. I call for a division of the question. The resolution as first presented I favor.

Gov. DUGRO—If you divide it, you will kill the whole d—d thing.

The PRESIDENT—Order, order.

Gov. TOWNSEND—I move to lay the motion to divide on the table. Lost.

Gov. OLIVER—I move to strike out carriages. Lost—4 to 5.

The question was then taken on stopping the supply of wines, liquors, cigars and carriages, and resulted: Yeas, Messrs. Smith, Anderson, Townsend, Dugro, Pinckney, Oliver, McElroy and Moloney—8. Nay, Gov. Gunther—1.

Gov. GUNTHER—I am glad to be in the minority on that question, and I think mine was the only honest vote in the Board.

Our reporter was unable to obtain a copy of the statement on which Gov. Anderson based his motion. The aggregate items for six months, from July 1, 1857, to Jan. 1, 1858, were:

Brandy	$98 35	Cigars	$573 50
Wines	533 17		
Whisky	101 25	Total for six mos.	$2,147 49

Gov. DUGRO—Give the document to the public.

Gov. ANDERSON—This is my own property. I should be willing to accommodate the gentlemen of the press, but I think it would be better not to give it to the public.

Gov. TOWNSEND—I think it should be given to the gentlemen of the press. So much has been said already about it, that I think it would be better to give it to the public. It is not so enormous after all.

[The document was not handed over to the reporters.]

The Committee on Supplies were ordered to advertise for milk for Randall's Island.

Michael Leonard was appointed boss carpenter on Randall's Island, at a salary of $600 a year.

ATTEMPT TO VETO FREE FEEDING.

Gov. MALONEY—I offer the following:

Resolved, That no refreshments of any kind shall be furnished to any Governor of this Board after this date.

Gov. GUNTHER—I agree to that. If I have to take along my little brandy flask, which I take a-fishing, when I go to the Island, I am sure I can carry my crackers and cheese as well.

Gov. OLIVER—I oppose this motion. I don't think that when we have to visit the Island on Committee duty we should starve.

Gov. DUGRO (significantly)—Put it through; I am for every one letting the people see how many people he keeps feeding on the free grub of the city.

Gov. OLIVER—I have taken very few people there; let those who have been accustomed to do so refer to the books.

Gov. DUGRO—I'll bet you $10 that you have taken hundreds there to my one.

Gov. OLIVER went on to oppose the resolution, as he thought that in a Board like this, where the members got no pay, they were entitled to a dinner when they were on duty or when they escorted citizens over the islands.

Gov. DUGRO—If we can't be gentlemen, and not only work without pay, but pay for the privilege, we have no business here. I hope that it will pass. We can put our hands into our own pockets when we want to treat ourselves or our friends.

Gov. ANDERSON—I offered the resolution which just now created so much feeling, not because I don't like a glass of good brandy with my dinner, but because I thought a good custom was being abused. I now offer the following amendment:

Resolved, That no refreshments be furnished to any persons in the institutions of this Board, except to the Governors, unless by order of this Board.

Gov. MALONEY made a heated speech about the freedom of opinion. He was willing to let gentlemen drink cold water, but he took brandy. If he could not have his toddy when he went to the Islands on business he would not be willing to give others their dinners.

Gov. OLIVER—What right have we to go to the Islands and gormandize, and yet refuse tax-payers a dinner when they come to see how their money is spent. It was well known that many members of this Board went to the Islands on Sundays only, not to look at the kitchens, the workhouse, the prisons, but no further than the parlors—to have a good time. He did not object to this, although, for his part, he believed the Sabbath might be better spent.

Gov. MALONEY (warmly)—Does the gentleman refer to me?

Gov. OLIVER—I referred to no one in particular; but if the coat fits, you are welcome to wear it.

Gov. MALONEY (subduedly)—O, I accept the apology.

Gov. DUGRO—That applies to Townsend. [Laughter.]

The PRESIDENT—No offensive remarks.

Gov. TOWNSEND (to Gov. Oliver)—Go on; I beg you won't notice him.

Gov. OLIVER (laughing)—No, I don't intend to; but you see Gov. Dugro has made a palpable hit, and I could not help smiling at it. [Laughter.] I move to lay the matter on the table.

Gov. DUGRO—Vote the motion down. Don't have these cold-water suckers going round eating free dinners—cut 'em off. I wonder whether Oliver takes his liquor in a tumbler or sucks it out of a spoon.

The resolution was laid on the table, 5 to 4.

Gov. MALONEY—Then the gormandizers have full swing. [Laughter.]

The Homeopathic question was laid over for a month, and the Board adjourned.

We append the weekly statement:

Number remaining March 13, 1858		7,997
Admitted since to March 20		1,447
Total		9,444
Died	35	
Discharged	1,363	
Sent to Penitentiary	106	
Sent to State Prison	8	1,492
Remaining		7,952
Decrease for the week		15

At the following institutions:

Bellevue Hospital	1,027	Randall's Island Hospital	237
Lunatic Asylum	649	City Prison	398
Alms-House	1,667	Second District Prison	19
Penitentiary	701	Third District Prison	10
In Hos. from Penitentiary	6	Fourth District Prison	5
In Hos. from Workhouse	338	Colored Home	341
In Hos. from Almshouse	40	Colored Orphan Asylum	139
Workhouse	980	Children at nurse	229
Small-Pox Hospital	27	City Cemetery	17
Randall's Island	1,107		
Total			7,952
Number remaining March 21, 1857			6,519
Increase			1,433

LECTURE ON FUN.

MR. DE CORDOVA, or Deacon of Glenwood, as he is otherwise styled, delivered a lecture last evening in Clinton Hall, on "Fun Seriously Considered." The Deacon of Glenwood is both an admirer of Fun and a professor of it, and his discourse last evening bore ample testimony to his thorough appreciation of the subject. After demonstrating the fact of Fun belonging strictly and solely to the English language, both in name and character, he proceeded to analyze it in a manner that certainly did not well accord with the title of his lecture, for whatever serious suggestion it may have given rise to in the minds of his audience, the subject was too cleverly handled to permit them to suppose that at the time they were giving it a serious consideration. Fun is anything that excites mirth without passion, laughter without ribaldry. He considered it under four heads—Practical, Witty, Humorous, and that which exposes cant, humbug and hypocrisy. To illustrate the three latter, *Punch* and works of Dickens and Thackeray were referred to at length. Throughout his whole lecture the Deacon adhered to his subject in a manner highly gratifying to the audience.

HOPE CHAPEL.—Mrs. Lesdernier, a New-York lady who has been for some months absent in California fulfilling professional engagements, gave a reading of selections from American Poets last evening, at Hope Chapel. During her stay in the towns of the Pacific coast, Mrs. Lesdernier attracted good audiences, and the press commended her elocutionary efforts in very flattering terms. We give our hearty assent to the verdict. The lady has a sonorous and pleasingly modulated voice, which she uses with excellent judgment. She reads understandingly, and with a freedom from affectation that is most gratifying to the ear. Her articulation is for the most clear and distinct, although in some few instances overmuch hurried—a fault attributable last evening probably to the natural embarrassment attendant upon her first appearance in her own city.

The audience were well pleased with the entertainment, and Mrs. Lesdernier may congratulate herself that she has made a good beginning, and may safely hope for a greater popularity and a wider fame. So may it be.

THE COURT-MARTIAL ON GEN. TWIGGS.—The following officers have been detailed for a Court Martial to be held on Gen. Daniel E. Twiggs, to assemble at Newport Barracks, Ky., on the 28th of April next:

Br. Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Jesup, Quartermaster-General; Br. Maj. Gen. E. Wood; Br. Maj. Gen. Persifor F. Smith; Br. Brig. Gen. Sylvester Churchill, Inspector-General; Br. Brig. Gen. Wm. S. Harney, Colonel of Second Dragoons; Col. Joseph K. F. Mansfield, Inspector-General; Col. Jos. Plympton, First Infantry; Br. Col. John H. Gardner, Lieutenant-Colonel First Artillery; Br. Col. Robert E. Lee, Lieutenant-Colonel Second Cavalry; Col. Thos. T. Fauntleroy, First Dragoons; Col. Henry K. Craig, Ordnance Department; Col. Chas. Thomas, Assistant Qu