POLITICAL.

THE CONNECTICUT ELECTION.

ENGLISH TO PARADE AS GOVERNOR ELECT ON WEDNESDAY NEXT—A REGIMENT ORDERED OUT AS AN ESCORT.

HARTFORD, April 26.—The 1st Regiment of Connecticut National Guard having been ordered to appear on Wednesday next (election day) on the park in this city, for escort duty, it is evident that Gov. English is to assume that he is Governor elect of the State, and will accept the usual honor. It is a singular proceeding, in view of the fact that the duties of the Board of Canvassers, on whose return he bases his election, are simply clerical, the Legislature alone having power to declare the vote. In consenting to figure as a successful candidate, to make himself conspicuous before the people here, he must be aware that he is liable to be placed in the embarrassing position of appearing as Governor on horseback on Wednesday, and of being retired to private life as soon as the Legislature can determine who is legally chosen; and the prospect certainly is that Marshall Jewell will be the next Governor of Connecticut.

THE LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY.

HARTFORD, April 24.—The form of proceeding in determining the legality of the election for Governor—as the question must necessarily come before the General Assembly this year—will differ from the usual course only so far as the Committee on the Canvass of Votes may deem it necessary to go, in deciding upon the validity of returns from New-Haven, Enfield, and Cheshire. There is little or no doubt about the vote of the latter town. Though the canvassers give Jewell less than he received there, by accepting the returns of one Moderator (two having served) who acted as a partisan, yet all the Democratic papers include in their figures as "official" the 23 votes not counted; so that the real point to be decided is as to the correctness of the count in the Fourth Ward, New-Haven, and in Enfield. When the Legislature assembles, the very first business in order, after the two Houses have organized, is the appointment of a Joint Committee on the Canvass of Votes for Governor and State officers. This Committee has before it the report of the Board of Canvassers. Ordinarily, as I have written you before, when the majority has been considerably one way or the other in the State, this Committee has only formally examined the returns. The Legislature, then, accepting the report of the Committee, elects by resolution the candidates chosen by the people, and a committee is then raised to wait upon the persons elected and inform them of their election. While these proceedings are going on, the election parade is being celebrated outside, and by the time the procession has closed its march and left the Governor *elect* (in whose honor the parade is given—in honor of the Governor *elect*, not the Governor) in the Governor's room in the State-House, the Committee of the Assembly is ready to notify him of his election, and he then announces that he has a communication to make, and soon after meets the two Houses in joint convention and delivers his annual message. But there is occasion this year for something more than a formal examination of the returns. "And said Assembly shall," says the Constitution, "after examination of the same (returns), declare the person whom they shall find *to be legally chosen*, and give him notice accordingly." Now, the Committee on the Canvass of Votes will find, in examining the returns, that the Moderator of the town of Enfield has, on the blanks he has submitted giving the vote of the town, protested in writing against the correctness of the count; and will also find that the Moderator of the town of New-Haven has, in a supplementary report which becomes a part of the original returns, as it was handed into the Secretary of State's office within the ten days' limit prescribed by the Constitution—certified to errors in the count of the Fourth Ward. So that the Committee will have before it *official* evidence justifying a minute examination of the returns of these towns. As the Committee will see, by the whole number of votes returned, that the election of one candidate or the other must depend upon correct returns from these towns, it will be impossible, without further examination, to find who has been "legally chosen;" and hence, neither Mr. English nor Mr. Jewell can be "given notice accordingly," till the legal question has been determined. Neither, therefore—with the facts at least unofficially understood now—can with any show of modesty consent to appear on election parade on the first day of the session, given in honor of the Governor *elect!*

It is surprising to many intelligent men of both parties here that *The Hartford Times*, the leading Democratic organ in the State, should raise any question concerning the duty of the Legislature, which is so plainly marked out, both by the constitution and statutes. To say that the Legislature shall not go back of the report of the Board of Canvassers in any event, is to put into the hands of either the Moderator of the town of Hartford or of New-Haven full power every year to defeat the will of the people by making false returns. He may willfully return 1,000 votes more for a candidate than were polled, and, though he himself should be convicted and fined $20 and costs (that is the penalty, I believe), the Legislature could in no legal way declare the person fairly chosen to be elected. It is almost too absurd to write about.

THE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE.

THE BUSINESS AND EXPENSES OF THE SESSION—PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE COMPLICATIONS—INTERESTING STATISTICS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 20.—Last December it was generally anticipated that the present session, the 27th, of the General Assembly would be one of peculiar interest. The Illinois Constitution of 1870 has been pronounced by competent judges the best yet adopted by any State. All students of law and of society cherished an expectation that the revision of the statutes and their adaptation to the new Constitution would develop discussions unusually fresh and instructive; but they were disappointed. On Monday last the Assembly adjourned until next November—the House signalizing the event by a fusilade of paper balls and general disorder. The more decorous Senate closed its session with prayer, an address from the Lieutenant-Governor, and the apostolic benediction. The contrast was typical of a very marked difference in ability and sense of responsibility between the two bodies. The House presented the anomalous spectacle of an organization without a head. The Speaker, though impartial and personally popular, seemed to lack the faculty of government; and there was not, upon the floor, on either side, a recognized leader. The Senate, on the other hand, was as able as any, perhaps, that we have ever had, wasted little time in talk, and attended closely to business.

The Legislature was in session for 104 days, and passed in all 51 bills, of which the Governor has already vetoed two, though one of these was afterward passed over his veto. Several still remain in his hands, awaiting his final decision. The expense of the session was over $200,000, or $2,000 a day, so that each of the laws enacted cost the people of the State about $4,000. An analysis of the legislation accomplished shows that of these 51 bills, 17, or one-third of the entire number, were appropriation acts, or otherwise related to public institutions of Illinois. There are two reasons for the smallness of the result. One is found in the stringent provisions of the new Constitution, which prohibits all special legislation and requires that every bill shall be read at large on three different days in each House, and that the bill and all amendments thereto shall be printed before the vote is taken on its final passage. The consequence is, that, under favorable circumstances, a bill can scarcely be pushed through in less than ten or twelve days from its introduction. The principal reason, however, for the failure to do more was without doubt the waste of time by members in needless discussion and calling of the roll. Thus, while the XXVIth Assembly, in about 80 days, out of 2,400 bills introduced, passed over 1,600, or two-thirds of the entire number, the XXVIIth Assembly, in about 100 days, out of about 850 bills introduced, passed only 50, or one in every 17. The cost of each law, two years ago, was $125, instead of $4,000, as now; but on the theory that the people are governed too much, they are still the gainers. The most noteworthy feature of the session just concluded is the failure of the Legislature to act upon many of the most important measures before it. It adjourned without making any appropriation for the ordinary and contingent expenses of the State Government. Several of the departments are provided for under former laws, but others are not. It adjourned without disposing of the Penitentiary question. The Penitentiary until four years ago was leased; since then it has been managed by Commissioners and a Warden at State expense, and has run the State very heavily in debt—exactly how much will not be certainly known until after an investigation. Though the creditors are pressing for payment of the indebtedness, no provision has been made for a settlement, nor has it been decided whether to return to the lessee system or not. The new constitution requires the General Assembly to pass such laws as may be necessary for the protection of operative miners; homestead and exemption laws; enactments fixing the salaries of State officers, and providing for and regulating the fees of county and township officers; a revenue law, and to reapportion the State. None of these requirements have yet been fulfilled. The work on the new state-House at Springfield has come to a stand-still (after the expenditure of nearly a million dollars) for the want of a further appropriation. Another surprising omission is the deliberate refusal of the House to concur with the Senate in a joint resolution for the reprinting of any portion of the official reports of State officers and public institutions, which were destroyed in the burning of the State bookbindery. This refusal makes a gap in the records of the State, destroying the continuity of the series. The effect will be felt in every library of public documents in the Union. The only reason assigned is a want of appreciation of the importance and value of such records.

In view of the failure of the Assembly to act upon these and other questions, the Governor designs to call a special session, to convene in Springfield about the 20th of May. A question has been raised as to the constitutionality of this call. The session has not been without the ordinary flashes of dullness and of wit. In the first or second week, a resolution was introduced prohibiting the reading of the Bible in any public school. A rural member, in the course of the discussion which sprang up, spoke of the authorized version as "Saint James's translation." A reporter present, thinking the expression a slip of the tongue, corrected it in his report. The next day the member arose to a question of privilege, and remarked that he had been grossly misrepresented and insulted by the press; he did not say "King James's translation"—he said *Saint* James's. Another member speaking of his high sense of the compliment paid him when he was nominated and elected, stated that he had called to see a former legislator, a personal friend, to whom he expressed his very great regard for the laws of his country. "Yes," said his friend, somewhat hesitatingly, "yes—laws are like sausages—the less you know of how they are made, the better you like them." One or two very happy retorts were made, though their originality may be open to dispute. A very vigorous speaker, with long arms, which he kept in perpetual motion, stopped for an instant to drink from a tumbler, when a brother member arose to a point of order, which was, that "it is out of order for a windmill to go by water." Another speaker, having kept the floor for nearly an hour, said, with an air of triumph, "Does the gentleman wish to ask any more questions?" Up sprang his opponent, who has a habit of stammering, and replied, "Yes, Mr. Speaker, I ask for the *p-p-p-previous* question."

SERENADE TO SENATOR FENTON.

HIS VIEWS ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION—THE INTERESTS AT STAKE IN THE COMING CAMPAIGN.

ALBANY, April 26.—Senator Fenton arrived in this city to-day, and this evening was serenaded at the Delevan House. Fully 2,000 persons were present. In response to the enthusiastic calls of those present, the Senator made his appearance and spoke as follows:

I gratefully accept this compliment as the kind expression of citizens of the State to one of their representatives—as the voice of earnest Republicans to an earnest Republican. We have fought many political battles together. We have won some victories and sustained some defeats. But I know I only accord you the honor to which you are fairly entitled, and I feel that I but do justice to my own heart when I say that we have never faltered in our zeal for the success of Republican principles. For myself, nothing shall swerve me from the line of duty which the paramount importance of the Republican cause marks out for all its followers. Enlisting with the party when its first breath pronounced the word of Freedom, I yield to no man in sincerity of devotion to its principles or in earnestness of desire for its durable triumph. Upon the continued ascendancy of its principles depend the peace of the nation, the protection of the loyal, the security of equal rights, the maintenance of the constitutional guarantees, the rights of the public creditor, and the preservation of the public faith. Their success is national prosperity; their overthrow would be national calamity. With such immense interest at stake to imperil its prospects, to incur the risk of defeat is to assume an appaling responsibility. Thus believing, I shall make no warfare upon others. If any is made upon me or any portion of the Republican party, I regret it, not upon my own account nor mainly on account of friends but only so far as it hazards the success which is above all personal considerations. For this reason I have deplored the course pursued in reference to the political affairs of our own State. Failing in every effort to effect a better understanding, I shall continue to perform my duties as a representative, and to discharge my obligations as a Republican, disclaiming all responsibility for divisions, and refusing any countenance to internal warfare.

At the conclusion of his remarks the Senator was vociferously cheered. The Hon. Lyman Tremaine also spoke briefly, and was heartily applauded.

EX-MAYOR CHAHOON—A CORRECTION.

A reputable citizen of Richmond, Va., writes to say that in publishing a telegram from that city in THE TRIBUNE of the 20th stating that "Stephen Mason, a member of the Virginia Legislature, was yesterday convicted of attempting to pack the jury in the case of ex-Mayor Chahoon, with a view to his acquittal," we have done injustice to Mr. Chahoon, who, it appears, is under indictment on a charge of issuing a forged paper on the estate of Solomon Hornsteen, deceased. Our correspondent says:

The Stephen Mason referred to was a prominent politician in the Conservative party, and a member of the present Legislature of Virginia. Mr. Mason did approach the Sergeant of the city, with the view of having certain parties summoned on the jury to try the case of the Commonwealth vs. Chahoon, but without the consent or knowledge of Mr. Chahoon. It is but justice to Mr. Chahoon to say, that on the trial had at the time, that not one of the names handed to the Sergeant by Mr. Mason was on the jury which tried Chahoon; that on that trial the jury failed to agree—nine for acquittal and three for conviction; that of the nine for acquittal not one of them was acquainted with Mr. Chahoon, except in his official character as Mayor of the City of Richmond. That the three men who were for conviction, two of them had in "bids" or propositions before the City Council to build the three houses for public schools in the city, and one of them was in the employment of the city at the time. That one of the "expected" contractors did say, before the evidence was adduced against Chahoon, to the Jury, that unless the Jury convicted him (Chahoon), his business was ruined. What do you think of this? Is not this packing a jury with a vengeance. It is the opinion of many of the good citizens of Richmond, that if Chahoon had not proven too strong for the "great Conservative party" in a certain election held in this city in the month of May, 1870, the civil courts of this great Commonwealth would never have been burdened with this political trial.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The Ohio Republican Association of Washington has elected a delegate to the State Convention, which meets at Columbus on the 21st of June.

The World declares that the mission of Secretary Boutwell to Chicago is to counteract anti-Grant influences which, it alleges, are at work in Illinois. This is a wide variation from its oft-repeated story that Boutwell was to be forced out of the Cabinet because of Grant's jealousy of him as an alleged aspirant for the succession.

The Central Grant Club met last evening, President Opdyke in the chair. Contested delegations from the IIId District headed by John J. Foley, and from the XVth District, headed, by H. D. Lapaugh, were admitted. The following Executive Committee was appointed by the President:

District.	District.
1..Nathaniel Kingsley.	12..Thomas A. Sculle.
2..Dennis Shea.	13..Charles S. Spencer.
3..John J. Foley.	14..Robert B. Lord.
4...George W. Bibler.	15..Henry D. Lapaugh.
5..James Winterbottom.	16..James M. Thompson
6..Knox Eiel.	17..William J. O'Brien.
7..Cornelius Van Cott.	18..Chester A. Arthur.
8..Samuel Cool.	19..Luther Horton.
9..George B. Dean.	20..William A. Darling.
10..John Lalor.	21..Rufus B. Cowing.
11..E. Delafield Smith.	

Resolutions were adopted indorsing President Grant, eulogizing Senator Conkling, and denouncing the "loathsome leper," Winans.

THE DRAMA.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—SEBEACH.

The most immediately novel and interesting incident of last night was the reappearance of Marie Seebach, which was made at the Academy of Music—in the character of *Adrienne Lecouvreur*. The audience was large, and the performance was much enjoyed. Seebach's *Adrienne* has been seen and reviewed before, and only a passing allusion to it seems necessary now. The cast was much the same as on previous occasions. Mlle. Veneta played *The Princess*, Mr. Pactor appeared as *Michonet*—a fine performance—and Mr. Dombruski was the *Maurice*. Seebach will play again, on Friday, taking her benefit, and making her farewell appearance in this country. She will act *Mary Stuart*. This eminent actress has given upward of one hundred and sixty performances in this country, and she will close in honor and triumph a most intellectual and brilliant career in America.

SATSUMA'S ROYAL JAPANESE.

Nature plays us many freaks in her quiet, orderly way which the most profound philosophy fails to explain. She cheats our eyesight day and night, making the sun, moon and stars to appear to rise, course, and set in our skies, while they are doing nothing of the kind. A thousand other optical illusions are her favorite pastime. The term supernatural is therefore of doubtful application. More veritable magicians than Satsuma's Royal Japanese never existed, yet they do not transcend Nature, but closely imitate her in the tranquil facility with which they bewilder and mock our senses. The perfection of their art is doubtless the growth and inheritance of ages, descended from the Japanese father of the blackart, from son to son, to the present generation. Yet many of their tricks are as fresh to us as the inspiration of the moment. Last evening they exerted themselves with more than wonted skill and success through a varied programme of startling and often too perilous miracles.

THE NEW BROOKLYN THEATER.

A new and beautiful place of amusement, to be called the Brooklyn Theater, is now building at Washington and Johnson-sts., Brooklyn, and is to be completed and thrown open to the public in October. The building will be 70 feet wide, by 127 feet 9 inches in length, and the main entrance, on Washington-st., will be 27 feet 9 inches in width. The first story will be of iron; above that Philadelphia faced-brick will be used. The total cost, including land, will be $190,000. The principal entrance will be closed by heavy iron gates 12 feet in hight, which will open into a vestibule 20x27 feet. The main lobby, 70x16 feet, and 15 feet high, will lead directly into the audience room, which will seat 2,000 persons. Iron chairs, with improved folding-seats, will be placed in the parquette and balcony, and the seats in the remaining portion of the auditorium will be upholstered with rich crimson plush. The walls are to be wainscoted in oak to a hight of four feet, above which there will be tasteful fresco work.

The proscenium will accommodate a curtain 34 feet wide by 45 feet high, and will project 15 feet outside the curtain line. It will be finished in composite style, with carved cornices. The arch, elaborately ornamented, will be surmounted by life-size figures of Music and the Drama. At either side of the proscenium the private boxes will rise one above the other, with projecting balconies ornately finished. They will be richly furnished, and decorated with blue damask curtains. The interior decorations of the gallery fronts, and the trimmings of the doors and windows, will correspond with those of the proscenium. The ceiling will be arched, rising to a dome, with a sunlight in the center. The stage, with its approaches, will be 60 feet in width, 45 feet deep, and furnished with four sets of grooves for scenery. The scenes will be 18 by 24 feet, and arranged to work with ease and rapidity. Altogether, the building will be an ornament to the city and a credit to the builder. Mrs. N. B. Conway is announced as the lessee.

MORE OF THE "FAME AT FIFTY DOLLARS PER VOLUME."

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: My attention has been called to a newspaper notice of a book entitled "Sketches of Men of Progress," issued by the "New-York and Hartford Publishing Co." (formerly calling himself the *London*, New-York, and Hartford Publishing Co.) I have not seen the book itself, but in the notice its title is thus given:

"SKETCHES OF MEN OF PROGRESS. By James Parton, Bayard Taylor, Amos Kendall, Rev. E. D. Mayer, J. Alexander Patten, and other writers," &c., &c.

The unauthorized use of my name, which is evidently intended to give the impression that I have been concerned in the preparation of the work, compels me to make a public statement of my experience of the "London, New-York, and Hartford Publishing Co."

Some time last Fall I received a letter from the individual (I have not been able to discover that more than one person is concerned), asking permission to include myself among his "Men of Progress," and requesting me, at the same time, to write a biography of a fellow-author and intimate friend, for the work. Inasmuch as I had written, a few years ago, a biographical sketch of my friend for a periodical, I willingly agreed to make the necessary additions, and then sent the completed sketch to the L., N. Y., and H. Co. In a few days I received an acknowledgment of the receipt of my sketch, accompanied by a printed contract, which I was requested to sign, binding myself to take *nine copies at $47 per volume*, and to pay the money *within fifteen days!* I answered that I had never paid a dollar for any notice of myself or my works, that I had nothing but contempt and disgust for bought notoriety, and that I prohibited any association of my name with those of the persons who submitted to such terms. Moreover, I informed the friend whose biography I had written of this scheme of *white mail*, and he promptly requested that his name, also, should be omitted from the "Men of Progress."

The other day, *ten copies* of the work, at $50 per volume, were sent by Express, C. O. D., to my friend, together with a letter which stated: "We are soon to publish another volume and *would be glad of your sketch for it!*"—thus admitting that his biography had not been included in the volume already published, notwithstanding the bill for $500! My friend refused to take the package from the Express Office, and persists in his determination not to appear voluntarily in a work which associates Bryant and Tweed, Longfellow and Sweeny. [We all know which of these paid for his place, and which did not.]

According to the newspaper notice, the principal personages included in this *first* volume are David Dudley Field, Galusha A. Grow, George W. Childs, the Rev. Dr. Chapin, W. H. Vanderbilt, Dan. Drew, W. C. Bryant, Gov. Hoffman, W. H. Webb, and E. D. Morgan. As I never wrote a sketch of either of these gentlemen, I claim that the use of my name on the title-page is a direct fraud, and hold myself justified in protecting myself from the suspicion which must inevitably follow its appearance in such a place, by the only means of defense—a published statement of the truth.

April 24, 1871. BAYARD TAYLOR.

THE OSBORN-HAMILTON CONTROVERSY.

The charge of attempted bribery brought against the Hon. T. W. Osborn, United States Senator from Florida, by the Hon. C. M. Hamilton, Senator from Texas, was the subject of a recent explanation in Congress by the former gentleman. It will be recollected that the charge, as made, implicated in the alleged bribery the Rev. Dr. A. C. Osborn of Brooklyn. On Tuesday evening last Dr. Osborn read before his church a statement of the transactions referred to and explained his connection therewith. The principal points presented were as follows:

A Company was organized on the 29th of December, 1869, to construct a railway in Florida. Mr. Hamilton, then a Representative from Florida in Congress, was asked to become one of the corporators. Mr. Hamilton declined; but immediately drew up similar papers incorporating another company to perform the same work, and filed them so as to take precedence of the one which he had been invited to subscribe to. Subsequently a proposition was made through a Major Purman which was understood as a proffer of coöperation on the part of Mr. Hamilton in the Company first formed, and, as such, was cordially accepted. The letter in which the Rev. Dr. Osborn, who was President of the Company, expressed his acceptance of this offer, is one of those alleged to have contained an offer on the part of the Osborns to bribe Mr. Hamilton with the stock of the Company in order to procure his influence in legislation favoring the railroad. Dr. Osborn states that this letter was not received by Mr. Hamilton until the charter was already obtained, having passed both Houses in Florida; and Dr. Osborn also mentions that no legislation in Washington, where Mr. Hamilton then was, could have at all affected this matter. Mr. Hamilton wrote a reply to this letter in which no trace of the notion of an attempt to bribe him is apparent; it relates merely to the terms upon which he will join in the enterprise and cease a process of interference already alluded to.

There were evidently fears at the time on the part of the corporators of the enterprise that Mr. Hamilton would subscribe to and gain possession of a majority of the stock. His friend did subscribe for him to the extent of $250,000. In June, 1870, the United States Senate passed a bill conferring a land grant upon the road. The Secretary of the Company declares over his signature that Mr. Hamilton, when the bill came before the House of Representatives, desired to use it to secure to himself the Federal patronage of the State. Dr. Osborn says this was met by a refusal on the part of the Company to meddle with the United States appointments. The bill failed of passage at that session. Dr. Osborn has made oath that on Feb. 9, 1871, Mr. Hamilton proposed to him explicitly to give his (Hamilton's) influence, vote, and a speech before the House, on condition that $1,000,000 of the stock of the Company and a salary of $6,000 per year were given to him, along with certain political influence in favor of a United States Marshalship which Mr. Hamilton coveted. Mr. Hamilton's reply to this affidavit is, not that he never made these propositions to the Company, but that he never made them "seriously." These offers, Dr. Osborn says, the Company declined to consider. But there was an offer of stock by Dr. Osborn, as follows:

"At the suggestion of Major Alberger, I repeat what I said at our last meeting, that if you choose to coöperate with us in our railroad enterprise, I will transfer to you, as soon as our land grant is obtained, 2,500 shares from the stock now standing in my name. That, with the stock you already have, which was subscribed for you by your friend Mr. Purman, will give you an interest of $500,000 in our road."

Dr. Osborn declares that this offer was made because Mr. Hamilton had complained that his interest in the Company was insufficient. The stock that was thus offered to Mr. Hamilton was unpaid stock liable to call for installments upon 90 days' notice. Col. Alberger, the Secretary of the Company, states over his signature:

"Stock was in this way offered to Mr. Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton declined this offer to me in person, on the ground that he would not be able to pay the assessments. He wanted unassessable or paid-up stock, and made repeated demands for such stock, which was never offered him."

A specific charge of an offer of $20,000 in money as a bribe is made by Mr. Hamilton, who states that the offer was made by Col. Alberger. The answer to this on the part of Col. Alberger is a total and unequivocal denial. Dr. Osborn admits that, "for the sake of harmony," he did offer Mr. Hamilton the salary he wanted as an officer of the Company; but declares that "afterward, when he coolly made this one of the conditions of his vote, his proposition was rejected." The rest of the explanation furnished by Dr. Osborn relates to the alleged threats in his letters of political injury to Mr. Hamilton, which the Doctor considers to have been simply forecasting Mr. Hamilton's future for him, in case he declined to further the internal improvements of Florida, and a demonstration that a land grant from Congress to the railroad would not have been swindling the United States. Dr. Osborn also defends the propriety of his engaging in the management of a railroad enterprise while the pastor of a church, by citing the example of the Apostle Paul as a tent-manufacturer.

PERSONAL.

The Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, jr., has retired from the chief editorship of *The Christian at Work*.

Gen. Spinner has been Treasurer of the United States for 10 years, and has handled in that time the very large sum of $50,000,000,000.

The Rev. J. A. M. Chapman, late of Grace Church, Boston, and the most popular Methodist clergyman of that city, has come here to assume the pastorate of St. John's (Bedford-ave.) Church, Brooklyn, E. D., and enters next Sunday upon his clerical duties.

The Rev. Wm. M. Taylor of Liverpool is coming over in the Scotia to supply for two months the pulpit of the Rev. R. S. Storrs, D. D., of Brooklyn, who is now in Europe. Mr. Taylor's chief object, however, in coming to America, is to make himself more thoroughly conversant with the common-school systems existing here.

The friends of humanity will not be inconsolable to learn that Pierre Bonaparte, the ruffian and assassin who created such a sensation during the late Empire by murdering Victor Noir, is reported to be in very straitened circumstances in Belgium. It is said he has sent a begging letter to Louis Napoleon, stating that he deserves assistance, as he delivered L. N. from one of his most implacable enemies.

Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan, Brig.-Gen. Forsyth, and Commodore Rogers, visited the Royal British Arsenal at Woolwich, on the 13th inst., under the authority of a special order from the War Office. They were received by the heads of the gun factories and other departments, and were shown the process of manufacturing the Woolwich guns in various stages, and other operations which the officers of the Arsenal, in the exercise of the discretion vested in them, usually permit foreigners to witness.

MORE SHORT-HORNS FOR KANSAS.

Mr. Ezra Cornell of Ithaca, accompanied by his herdsman, Mr. John Watts, has gone to Kansas to select a suitable location for a breeding farm for short-horn cattle. Mr. Watts is an Englishman thoroughly educated and trained in the care of cattle. He has had nine years' experience in this country in the care of Mr. Cornell's herd, and his success has been amply attested by the frequent awards of prizes by the State Agricultural Society. Mr. Cornell will send 25 head of short-horns to Kansas as a nucleus of a new herd, retaining the others at Ithaca for the University.

THE KNICKERBOCKER LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

MEETING OF POLICY-HOLDERS—SERIOUS CHARGES—THE LAW TO BE INVOKED.

The course of the Knickerbocker Life Insurance Company of No. 161 Broadway, has given considerable dissatisfaction to its policy-holders for some time past, many going so far as to state that the Company was a complete swindle. About 150 of these latter met together last night at Hübner's Hotel in the Bowery, to decide as to the correctness of their belief, and as to the measures to be taken for the redress of their grievances. At a former meeting a committee composed of Dr. Franklin, F. V. Euring, and T. H. Grünenthal, was appointed to investigate the matter and take legal counsel on the subject, should they deem it necessary. At the meeting last night, Dr. Franklin, on behalf of the Committee, stated that they had made efforts to meet S. Lyman, the President of the Company, without avail; that he had then written him a note on the subject; that on April 19 an answer was received from the President, stating that he was surprised to learn the facts mentioned by the Committee, was very much pressed with business, but would, as soon as possible, answer the questions in detail. A week having now passed since that answer was received, and no further communication having been received from the President, he thought it high time that some steps should be taken to rectify the injustice done the policy-holders. Acting upon this idea, the Committee had consulted with Max Goepp, a member of the New-York bar, who desired that the policy-holders should answer certain questions, that he might determine whether the Company had been guilty of such a violation of its contract as would justify an action against it.

F. J. Klein, the Chairman, stated that the grounds of complaint were to be found in the facts that the Company had sent out agents to induce persons to take policies in the Company, which agents had represented that the Company was the most liberal and prompt in the city; that it would pay an annual dividend of from 35 to 50 per cent; that those who were unable to pay the whole amount of their installment down, could pay one-half, the Company crediting them with the other half on account of the aforesaid annual dividends, and charging them but seven per cent on the loan thus made; that the installments were to be paid to the agents or collectors, who would call for them when due, and not at the Company's office; that the agents so employed by the Company spoke the German language, the policy-holders being mostly German; and that the latter depending upon the statements made by such agents, and influenced solely thereby, being generally unable to read the policies, which were in English, invested their money with the Company; that no dividends had been paid by the Company within the last three years; that the agents and collectors of the Company had been discharged, and those who had offered to pay their installments at the Company's office had been there informed that the agents would call for the same as usual; that such agents had not called, and that the installments offered at the office had been refused and the persons informed that their policies were annulled in consequence of default in the due payments of installments. It was further stated that some who had objected to this summary way of giving the cold shoulder and threatened to return these uncivil proceedings by others civil and criminal, had been obliged to submit to a medical reëxamination, and many who were and are in sound health were thrown out as consumptives.

Mr. Klein stated that he held a policy of $2,000 in the Company, on which he had paid over $400 in three years, besides $25 interest, and had been offered $15 dividends only.

J. W. Hagemeyer of No. 344 East Twentieth-st., said that he held policies for $2,000 and $3,000; that in seven years he had received $13 dividends on the $2,000 policy, and nothing whatever on the $3,000.

Adolph Jüngling of No. 512 East Twelfth-st. said he held a policy for $1,000. The agent had always come to the house for the premium; the last installment was due Jan. 18, which was Sunday; the agent did not come, and he sent the money to him; the agent said he had been dismissed, and that a collector would call for the money; none came, and on Wednesday he went to the Company's office; the clerk there told him the collector would come to him; he waited two days longer, and went again to the Company, offering to say the installment due; he received a paper, and was directed up stairs; there the doctor examined him, said nothing, but gave him another paper and sent him down again; he handed the paper to the clerk, who told him that his policy was annulled; he told the clerk he had been ready to pay, but the collector did not come, and he had also received no notice from the Company; he left, and afterward made fruitless attempts to see the President.

Mrs. Lorenz Metzger of No. 127 Eldridge-st. said her husband held a policy from the Company; went to the office to pay the money due; was told there that the collector would call for it; waited several days, but no collector came; went again to the office; they said her husband must come; when he went they examined him, and told him his policy was annulled.

After these statements were made, it was agreed that all persons present should sign a paper pledging themselves for a small amount of money to create a fund to defray expenses in case their counsel should advise them to proceed against the Company. A number of persons signed the paper. The meeting adjourned to May 3.

THE OLD-FELLOWS.

CELEBRATION OF THEIR FIFTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

The Odd Fellows of Newark celebrated the 52d anniversary of the establishment of the order in this country yesterday afternoon and evening. Bunting was displayed during the day from the public and many private buildings. About 2,000 persons paraded, wearing the regalia of the order. A number of visiting lodges were in the line, including several from New-York City. Many beautiful and costly banners were carried, that of Columbian Lodge of Newark being probably the finest. After parading through several streets the procession moved to the Rink, on Washington-st., where the exercises were to have consisted of music and addresses. That part of the day's observance, however, was not successful. The building was handsomely decorated and densely crowded. Past Grand Little of Howard Lodge, Newark, presided, but, like others who attempted to speak, he was unable to make himself heard in the large building. The Rev. Mr. Gaddis of Brooklyn, who was to deliver an address, was not present. Theodore A. Rose began to read a history of the Order, but as he could not be heard, a large portion of the audience left, and thus created so much confusion that he was compelled to desist altogether. In the evening, there was a promenade concert and ball, at the Rink.

The Odd-Fellows' celebration at Lafayette, Ind., was a grand success, notwithstanding the rain which continued from early in the morning until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The procession was formed at 1 o'clock, and, after marching through the principal streets, halted at the grove north of the city, where a stand and seats had been erected for the address. The prominent persons on the stand were the President and Vice-President of the United States, ex-Gov. Oglesby of Illinois, Past Deputy Grand Sire Herndon, the Hon. H. S. Lane, Past Grand Representative Morton, the Hon. G. S. Orth, and Chaplain, the Rev. W. R. Jewell. Past Grand Representative Schuyler Colfax delivered an eloquent and appropriate address. After the address, the President was called for and loudly cheered. Addresses were also delivered by Senator Morton and others. The President left at 5 o'clock for Toledo. The Vice-President also left soon after for his home at South Bend, Ind.

The fifty-second anniversary of the establishment of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows in this country was celebrated in Washington, yesterday, by the Encampments and Lodges of the Order in the District, in accordance with the proclamation of the Grand Lodge of the United States that the 26th of April be set apart and observed by the members of the Order as a day of general thanksgiving, in grateful recognition and acknowledgment of the power and goodness of God in the preservation and prosperity of the organization. There was a grand procession, also exercises at the National Theater, including several addresses, and singing of two original odes. In the evening there was a continuation of the celebration at Odd-Fellows' Hall.

The anniversary was observed in Brooklyn, at the Athenæum, last evening. The exercises were opened with music, followed by an introductory address by P. G. M. Pettit. The oration was delivered by P. G. M. Marvin, who stated that $13,000,000 had been expended by the Order in this country, since 1830, for purposes of relief and charity, and $9,000,000 is now on hand for disbursement in the same direction. The Order in America now has about 4,000 Lodges, with 340,000 members, and is rapidly increasing. The Rev. E. C. Boles paid an enthusiastic tribute to the Order of Odd-Fellows, and stated that his sympathies were with the Brotherhood, because they strove to inculcate toleration, to promote good-will among men, and to advocate friendship, love, and truth in all the concerns of life.

Eastern Star and Machigonne Encampments of Odd-Fellows celebrated the anniversary in Portland, Me., by a public parade, the members wearing new regalia. In the evening there was a promenade concert at the City Hall.

The Odd-Fellows of Indianapolis, in connection with the lodges in the vicinity, celebrated the anniversary at Danville. The principal feature was the unveiling a statue of Grand Master A. L. Adams of Indiana.

The Odd-Fellows of San Francisco had a pic-nic yesterday at the Encinal de la Mela. From 15,000 to 20,000 people attended.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 26, 1871—7:30 p. m.

Synopsis for the past twenty-four hours.

On the Pacific Coast the weather has remained sensibly unchanged since Tuesday afternoon. The threatening weather and falling barometer that prevailed on Tuesday, west and south of Indiana, has extended slowly eastward, and now prevails from Lake Erie to Virginia, and to the south-west of that region. Heavy rains have fallen in Tennessee and the Ohio Valley. The sky has become hazy and partially cloudy in the Middle States and South Atlantic. The barometer is now nearly stationary on the immediate Atlantic Coast. Fresh northerly winds have prevailed during the day on Lakes Erie and Michigan.

Probabilities.

It is probable that a storm of some severity will be experienced from Lake Michigan to Lake Ontario. Threatening and rainy weather from the Lakes to the Atlantic Coast.

PICTURES AT AUCTION.

Mr. Somerville resumed the sale of American and foreign paintings at his Art Gallery, Fifth-ave. and Fourteenth-st., last evening, in the presence of a large number of dealers in works of art. The bidding was spirited throughout, and very high prices were obtained in some instances. Among the more valuable paintings sold were the following:

The Stello, Chavet, $410; the Toilet, Boettcher, $300; the Abduction, J. Tissot, $1,100; Picture Book, Michel, $220; Highland Sheep, Ross Bonheur, $3,500; the Morning Hour, Kammerer, $540; No Name, Alfred Stevens, $2,500; Landscape with Sheep, Brevoort, $190; Street View in Cairo, W. De Testas, $190; Flemish Maiden, Verheyden, $235; Brittany Peasant Girl, E. Hublin, $280; Coast View near Estretat, Chas. Hoguet, $200; Arrest of the Duke of Guise, G. Nauer, $180; Interior Wittenberg Palace, S. Leutze, $135; Farmyard, A. F. Tait, $255; Reading the Scriptures, C. M. Webb, $210; Sunset on the English Channel, De Haas, $250; Boat Excursion, Girardet, $150; Cooling Off, J. G. Brown, $130; The New Novel, A. Jourdan, $400; The Letter, Leyendecker, $135; The Pearl Necklace, Leyendecker, $205; The Picture Gallery, Prof. Carl Becker, $2,400; Studying Chess, F. A. Schmitt, $250; Lake George, William Hart, $775; The Solicitor, George Brillouin, $310; St. Ann's Fall, Canada, Regis Gignoux, $150; Lake Scene, Autumn, A. C. Wiggins, $125; How Happy could I be with Either, J. G. Brown, $220; Daughter of Rev. Geo. H. Boughton, $420; Hills of Susquehanna County, Smillie, $215; Summer Afternoon, Cashmar, $400; Gardener's Daughter, Chas. Bens, $260; Das Dahlienkorn, Lindler, $225; Heart's Ease, Schlesinger, $255; Mother's Joy, Sohn-Rehder, $225; Wood Scene, Diaz, $250; Playing Copenhagen, Lobrecen, $620; Italian Girl with Tamborine, Bouguereau, $600; The First Ride, Gay, $230; Playing Ball in the Garden of Versailles—Time of Louis XIV., Baron, $550; Misty Morning in the Adirondacks, James M. Hart, $456; The New Scholar, Rethel, $620; Sleeping Child, Caille, $170; Picture Book, Siegert, $250; Topham Farm, A. F. Tait, $295; Fisherman's Daughter, Breton, $225; Confidence, Chavet, $540; Variety, Accard, $190; Going Out to Spend the Day, J. G. Brown, $205; Femme Fellah, Leconte, $1,350; No Name, Emile Levy, $350; Preparing the Meal, Caille, $175; Widow's Prayer, Hubner, $230; In the Study, Dansert, $100; Lady Washington's Reception, Carter, $110; Interrogating a Peasant, J. L. Brown, $215; Landsc