New-York Tribune.

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ALBANY.

GENERAL BUSINESS IN THE ASSEMBLY.

STENOGRAPHERS FOR CORONERS' COURTS—CARE OF DESTITUTE CHILDREN—THE SUNDAY PROCESSIONS BILL DEFEATED—THE LOAN COMMISSIONERS BILL LOST—A BILL INTRODUCED REDUCING THE SALARIES OF CITY OFFICIALS—AN OLD JOB HIDDEN IN A NEW BILL.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, May 13.—The first of the all-day sessions began to-day, the Assembly meeting at half-past nine, and continuing until seven, with an adjournment of two hours for dinner. The day was occupied with a long and wearisome routine of third reading of bills, with which the Assembly is rapidly swelling the statute book. Mr. Costigan obtained unanimous consent to introduce a bill, which was afterward ordered to a third reading, empowering the Coroners of New-York City, when the written advice and consent of the District-Attorney has been obtained, to employ a stenographer in important homicide cases. Mr. Sherman's bill, providing for the care and indenture of minor destitute children, was passed. It permits orphan asylums and half orphan asylums or other institutions which have destitute children in charge to bind out and indenture children into private families, a bond of $1,000 being required of the person who takes charge of the child. The bill to regulate the size of potato and apple barrels, defeated some days ago, was reconsidered—a concession which Mr. Comstock obtained by amending the bill so as to provide that it should not take effect till Jan. 1, 1876. A second reconsideration was that of the bill providing for the sale of a part of the property of the Seamen's Retreat Hospital on Staten Island. The bill was passed by 87 Yeas to 6 Nays, and is merely for the purpose, as has already been stated, to extricate the institution from financial embarrassment.

Mr. Bradley's Sunday Processions bill was lost. Its features were the same as the former bills that have met the same fate. Under it actual funeral processions on Sunday could only be accompanied with a band after 12 o'clock noon, except that no such band should play within a block of any church.

A bill providing for the election of Loan Commissioners was lost, inasmuch as it received only 48 votes. The bill was pressed by the Republicans, inasmuch as it would deprive the Governor of the patronage now involved in the appointment of these officers, but the Democrats took alarm in time. The bill to pay the claims of the soldiers of the War of 1812 was also lost. The bill exempting such of the property of the New-York Hospital from taxation as is used for hospital purposes was passed. Mr. Thomas C. Campbell's bill to transfer from the Department of Parks to the Department of Public Works, subject to the approval of the Mayor and Common Council the control of the paving, regulating, and grading of all streets, avenues, and places adjacent to the parks of New-York, was passed. Messrs. Wachner, Gedney, and Schiefelin voted in the negative. The bill empowering the Department of Parks to make provision for the College of Music by setting apart ground in Central Park, between Seventy-ninth and Eighty-fifth-sts., as a site for the building, was also passed.

One of the most important bills to New-Yorkers passed to-day was that introduced by Mr. Thomas C. Campbell, which makes a reduction of $3,000 each in the salaries of Recorder, Surrogate, District-Attorney, City Judge, and additional City Judge, making the new figure in each case $12,000. It reduces the salaries of the four Assistant District Attorneys from $10,000 to $7,500 each, and of the ten Civil Justices from $10,000 to $6,000 each, thus effecting a total saving of $65,000.

The most interesting incident of the afternoon session was the discovery by Mr. Hess of New-York, in an innocent bill about evidence in suits against the City Government, of one of those tricks which abound on the closing hours of the session. The bill was merely one providing that in all cases against the City of New-York, where issues of fact are to be determined, the evidence shall be taken in open court before a jury, and no verdict shall be entered against the city without the verdict of a jury. A second section had been inserted in this bill in the Sub-Committee of the Whole yesterday by Mr. Dessar, which provided that in any action against the City of New-York relating to the claims of the members of the Metropolitan Police force, it should be determined whether the plaintiffs were entitled to pay as members of the force, and for the amount as determined the city was to be liable. Mr. Hess called attention to this section, and said that it was to open the way to old claims against the city amounting to more than a million dollars. It was subsequently shown that these were the claims for compensation of Fernando Wood's police force, which have been knocking about the Legislature for many years. Mr. McGowan said the amendment was merely to enable members of the force improperly discharged to obtain a hearing for their claims. The Court of Appeals had decided that the manner of their discharge was improper. Gen. Husted favored the motion which Mr. Hess had made to strike out the section, for the reasons already given, and because so sweeping a section should have been made a bill by itself. Timothy J. Campbell came to the rescue of the bill with the extraordinary explanation that it had come from the Senate as a Republican measure, and when it had been amended so as to become a Democratic measure—which speaks poorly for Democratic measures in general—the Republican member from New-York (Mr. Hess) had assailed it. This explanation was so convincing that Mr. Oakley, who had not voted at all, solemnly rose and changed his vote on the motion to recommit from the affirmative to the negative; but the section was stricken out by a vote of 75 to 20.

The Canal Repairs Re-appropriation bill, which was recalled to be itemized in accordance with Gov. Tilden's suggestions, was reported in proper shape by Mr. Page.

GENERAL BUSINESS IN THE SENATE.

PRIVILEGES OF PRIVATE BANKERS—THE SLAUGHTERING OF ANIMALS TO BE CONCEALED FROM PUBLIC VIEW—CANAL CONTRACT WORK—THE BLEECKER-ST RAILROAD BILL AMENDED AND PASSED—ATTACHMENTS OF PROPERTY OF FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

[FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, May 13.—The special order in the Senate this morning was the bill preventing individuals and corporations from doing business under names indicating that they are incorporated banks and banking institutions. Mr. Lowery, who had charge of the bill, said that from 1804 to 1837 private bankers were forbidden to carry on banks of discount, and up to 1860 there had been only 20 private bankers in the State. Now there were over 60. Many incorporated banks had withdrawn their securities from the Bank Department and continued to do business as private institutions, retaining the incorporate name.

Mr. Wellman and Mr. Bradley both opposed the bill, the former stating that the bill would affect more than 150 banking institutions which had built up a business and a reputation, which should not be taken from them. Mr. Bradley said the bill would simply work inconvenience to private bankers without effecting any permanent good. He believed the security afforded a depositor by a private banker was greater than that afforded by an incorporated bank, as the liability of the bank was unlimited. Progress was finally reported on the bill.

Mr. Woodin introduced a bill forwarded to him by Mr. Henry Bergh, providing that the killing of animals in all cities of the State shall be completely concealed from public view, and no child under 15 years of age shall be employed or be present at the slaughter of animals, under penalty to the person permitting the presence of the child of fine and imprisonment. Mr. Bergh, in a statement accompanying the draft of the bill, says that on a recent tour of the slaughter-houses he found children in crowds, and even well-dressed women gathered about the doors and watching the process of slaughtering. Senator Lord's bill in relation to contract work on canals came up for a third reading, and on motion of Mr. Woodin was recommitted to the Canal Committee for verbal amendment. It appears the bill was so loosely drawn that it provided in the body for work not on the canals alone, but on all public buildings, and this omission, strangely enough, had not been observed in the discussion upon it in the Committee of the Whole. It was plain that the intention was to refer only to canal work, and Mr. Woodin's motion was for the purpose of stating that fact in the body of the bill as well as in the title.

The bill authorizing the Fulton Ferry and Bleecker Street Railroad Company to lease its tracks came up for a third reading, and by consent was amended by the insertion of the following section:

Any railroad company is hereby authorized to take a lease of all or any portion of said railroad and its extensions, providing the stockholders of the Bleecker Street and Fulton Ferry Railroad Company holding a majority of the stock of said Company shall assent thereto.

With this amendment the bill was passed.

The following bills were also passed:

To reduce the ferriage over certain portions of East River, which makes 3 cents the highest rate of ferriage for foot passengers on the ferries running from that portion of New-York, between Houston-st. and Thirty-fourth-st., to Brooklyn.

The bill to incorporate safe deposit companies.

To provide houses of detention for women and children awaiting trial or detained as witnesses.

Senator Fox introduced a bill providing that the coroners of New-York City may employ stenographers to take notes of evidence in important cases on the written consent of the District Attorney—the same as that introduced in the Assembly by Mr. Costigan to-day.

A communication was received from Gen. John M. Newton of the United States Engineers, protesting against the statements implied in the concurrent resolutions passed some time ago, to the effect that the work of deepening the channel between Staten Island and New-Jersey is being conducted in a manner that will prove injurious to all interests about these two points. He says that the statements are based on false premises. On motion of Mr. Jacobs the communication was ordered returned to Gen. Newton without comment, and his request to have it spread on the Journal was refused. The bill to authorize the City of Brooklyn to purchase the State Arsenal for use as an armory came up from the Senate for amendment, requiring that two-thirds of the Supervisors instead of a majority shall be required to authorize the purchase, and that when no longer used as an armory it shall revert to the State. Some discussion ensued over the proposed amendment, and the bill was laid over.

The bill to exempt foreign corporations from levy by attachment and seizure by giving a bond was discussed in the afternoon session in Committee of the Whole, and met with very strong opposition. Mr. Woodin moved to strike out the enacting clause, and said the Legislature was not prepared to go so far at present as to let off foreign corporations by their giving a single bond of $25,000, when they should be required to give a separate bond upon their property in every item of a judgment rendered against them. Mr. Laning said that the bill had reference solely to transportation corporations and mainly to railroad corporations, and aims to prevent the seizure on attachment in this State of the cars of railroad companies belonging to another State temporarily passing through on the lines of this State. He instanced cases where cars of the New-York Central Railroad had been seized in other States on attachments for small sums, the Company being put to great expense in contesting the suit, or being compelled to compromise in order to save trouble. Citizens of other States, debarred from this means of redress by the laws of their own State, come to New-York and seize the cars of corporations of their own State, and obtain either a compromise of a suit or compel the company to a litigation away from home, and at great inconvenience. Mr. Woodin's motion to strike out the enacting clause was agreed to. Mr. Laning moved to reconsider, and the motion was laid on the table.

The bill to provide for payment for the use and occupation of armories in New-York was also discussed in Committee of the Whole, and ordered to a third reading. The bill giving the *New-Yorker Journal* $1,300 for the publication of certain notices was ordered to a third reading. The Real Estate Record fraud, which has already been pretty fully exposed in THE TRIBUNE, came up in Committee on the Whole, but the first assault upon it by Messrs. Laning and Johnson frightened its friends, who hastily withdrew it. The rest of the afternoon was expended in a discussion of the Assembly bill in relation to canals, and after some time spent in Committee of the Whole upon the merits of the bill, it was reported to the Senate, and there ordered to a third reading. Upon Mr. Woodin's motion it was then recommitted to the Canal Committee for amendment in regard to minor points, the general sentiment being that the bill in its main provisions was acceptable to the whole Senate. Mr. Dayton offered a resolution that the Canal Board be authorized to reduce the tolls on pine and hard wood lumber to a rate of 3 mills a thousand feet per mile, which was laid over under the rule.

SYMPATHY WITH CUBA.

A RESOLUTION OFFERED BY SPEAKER M'GUIRE IN THE ASSEMBLY ADOPTED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, May 13.—The Assembly indulged this morning in the inexpensive luxury of a little sympathy for struggling Cuba. Mr. McGuire left the chair to introduce the following resolutions, which at least one leading member had previously refused to offer:

Whereas, For the past six years a successful armed resistance to Spanish authority on the Island of Cuba has been maintained by a people who have organized and established a government republican in form, which guarantees to all its citizens freedom in person, in religion, in the right to acquire and enjoy property, and participation in its affairs; and whereas, The Republic of Cuba has not only maintained its position, but persistently lessened the area of Spanish rule, until it is now recognized over less than one-third of the territory of that island; and whereas, The war now being waged on said island is characterized by all the ferocity of semi-barbarism, the consequences of which are prejudicial to the social and commercial interests of the entire people; and whereas, It is apparent that the people represented by the Republic of Cuba possess the ability to drive the Spanish army and the representatives of Spanish authority ultimately to the seaboard towns for their protection, when the civilized world must accord to that Republic its independence; and whereas, it is the duty of the Government of the United States to always extend its sympathies, and when consistent its aid, to any people struggling to establish a free republican government, therefore, disclaiming any intention or desire to give to this subject any party or political bias,

Resolved (if the Senate concur), That in the opinion of this Legislature the time has arrived when it is the duty of the Government of the United States to take such action as is best calculated to terminate the war now waging in the Island of Cuba, and secure to its people the advantages of a free government.

Resolved (if the Senate concur), That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to pass such measures as will secure to the Republic of Cuba all the rights and privileges belonging to belligerents in this war.

Mr. McGuire, in submitting them, said that they were neither local, personal, nor political, and afterwards, in a few temperate words, urged their adoption. Mr. Alvord said that his only remark on the resolutions would be that, if he had been President of the United States, which he did not expect to be—a statement which excited considerable astonishment—or a Representative in Congress—and about his expectations on that point Mr. Alvord said nothing—he would have tried long since to aid the Cuban cause, and help this people to throw off the accursed oppression which rests upon them. Messrs. Davis, Daly, Vedder, and Seward supported the resolutions, and they were adopted by a unanimous rising vote, after Mr. Vedder had made an unsuccessful attempt to amend them by providing that nothing should be done "in violation of international law or the civil polity of the United States."

A SURPRISE IN RAPID TRANSIT LEGISLATION.

SUDDEN CONVERSION OF OPPONENTS OF RAPID TRANSIT—THE VOTE ON THE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE'S BILL RECONSIDERED IN THE SENATE AND THE BILL PASSED—MOTION IN ASSEMBLY TO RECALL THE COMMON COUNCIL BILL FROM THE SENATE—THE ELEVATED RAILWAY BILL PASSED IN THE SENATE.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, May 13.—There have been various rapid transit developments in both Houses to-day. In the Assembly the plight of the lobby members with reference to the Common Council or Moore Rapid Transit bill was the subject of a great deal of amused comment. These gentlemen, it seems, allowed the bill to go through with Gen. Husted's amendments, under the impression that the bill was so effectually weighed down by them that they could afford to assume the appearance of favoring a bill which they had been employed to oppose. But, to their disgust and astonishment, the stipulated compensation for their services is understood to have been subsequently refused by the disbursing agent of the horse-car companies on the ground that they had failed to fulfill their contract, which was to kill the bill outright. This unexpected turn in their affairs instantly converted a number of these members, and several of the most notorious of them were heard to declare indignantly this morning that the people of New-York had suffered too long in this matter at the hands of the Legislature. Finding that this change had come over the House, or, at least, over the marketable portion of it, the friends of the bill drawn by Messrs. McGowan and T. C. Campbell on Mr. Hess's resolution, and reported by the General Laws Committee, reconsidered the vote by which the bill was defeated, and passed it without material opposition. But the lobby members made one more attempt to fulfil their contract. Mr. Brogan of New-York offered a resolution ordering that a respectful message be sent to the Senate requesting the return of the Common Council Rapid Transit bill, and stated as his reason for the resolution that the amendments which had been made to the bill were believed to have the effect of destroying all hope of rapid transit under the bill, and it was desired to remedy these defects. The object of the resolution was, of course, to get the bill back into the House, from which it would probably never emerge alive. Mr. Thomas C. Campbell and Gen. Husted protested against a departure from the usual course of procedure, by which the differences of opinion between the two Houses would be settled in a conference committee, and the resolution was defeated by a vote of 56 to 20. The score who voted in its favor were the following. [Republicans in italics, Democrats in Roman.]

Messrs. Bennet, Berry, Broas, Brogan, Brown, Coffey, *Fay, Gallagher*, Griffin, *Houghton*, Kennaday, *Lawson*, Lewis, McGroarty, O'Keefe, Reilly, Sherman, Smith, and Wenzel.

It should be said, however, that Messrs. Houghton and Sherman have not been and are not now suspected of any connection with the lobby.

The Common Council bill, as amended in the Assembly, came back to the Senate for concurrence. The amendments were read, and Mr. Woodin requested, as Mr. Booth was sick and was anxious to see the amendments before they are acted upon, that the bill be referred to the Committee on Railroads in order that they might know what the amendments were. Mr. Jacobs said he believed it was generally understood that the amendments were more important than the bill, and he wanted it reprinted with the amendments and placed on the files. A resolution to that effect was finally passed, with a further amendment requiring that the Committee report to-morrow morning.

In the Senate the Elevated Railroad bill came up for a third reading, when Mr. Johnson moved to recommit to the Committee on Railroads with instructions to amend it by striking out the words "south of Ninety-ninth-st.," so that the hight of the road above the sidewalk of fourteen feet shall not be confined to that portion of the city only, but shall be uniform throughout its length.

Mr. Madden hoped the amendment would not be adopted, as it would necessitate the sending of the bill back to the Assembly, and endanger the passage of it this session. He said that on the part of the route above Ninety-ninth-st. there were few or no habitations, as it was a wild and rocky region, with neither grades nor sidewalks. When the region was about building up it would be easy enough for the Legislature to fix the hight of the road there. Mr. Johnson claimed that the Boulevard ran parallel with the proposed route of this road; that it was completely graded, and was pretty thickly occupied. He thought there was nothing in this bill to prevent the Company from actually taking possession of the Boulevard itself for their purposes, and of running a steam engine on the surface of it.

Mr. Jacobs said that he had come into possession of a letter directed to a Senator on the other side of the chamber, which he thought would best give an idea of the system of intimidation by which the opponents of this bill hoped to influence Senators against it. These opponents were the stockholders of the old road, and the letter he proposed to make an extract from is doubtless the work of their advisers. He then read a short extract, without giving the name of the writer or the receiver of the letter, to the effect that should the bill be passed its opponents will lay the whole facts before the Governor and have it vetoed; and as it was currently reported that this Senator had received money to vote for the bill, the writer warns him not to do so, unless he would have his connection with the transaction exposed. Mr. Jacobs then sent the original letter to Senator Woodin to read.

Senator Johnson asked that the whole of the letter be read, and Mr. Woodin announced that he intended to read it.

Mr. Jacobs objected, unless the Senator (Woodin) had received permission from the gentleman to whom the letter was sent. Mr. Woodin said he had received such permission; the first impression he had received from a glance at the letter was that it was written solely for use in the manner in which it is used. It had been handed to the Senator 10 minutes before, and it was signed anonymously. He then read the letter, which was directed to Senator Thompson of the XXIIId District, and stated that it was understood that he was receiving money through Mr. Ward, a well-known lobbyist, for his action on this bill, and warning him as Mr. Jacobs had quoted. Mr. Thompson, Senator from the XXIIId, stated that he had slightly known Mr. Ward, but he had had no relations whatever with him, and had talked with him about legislation only in the same way that he would talk with any one.

After some further discussion, Mr. Johnson's amendment was rejected by a vote of 10 to 18. Mr. Johnson then offered a second amendment to the effect that the estimates of the elevation of the road shall be subject to the approval of the Mayor and Commissioner of Public Works. This was also rejected by a vote of 10 to 20, and the bill was passed by the following vote: (Republicans in italic, Democrats in roman.)

YEAS—Bradley, Coe, *Connelly, Dickinson, Dow*, Fox, Jacobs, Laning, Lord, *Madden*, Morse, Parmenter, Ray, *Robertson, Selkreg, Thompson, Tobey, Wagner, Wellmann*, and *Woodin*—20.

NAYS—Dayton, Gross, Johnson, *King*, Ledwith, *Lowery, McGowan*, Middleton and *Wood*—9.

ALBANY NOTES.

ALBANY, Thursday, May 13, 1875.

The day of adjournment is now indefinitely stated as probably a week distant. The Assembly is occupying the time with the passage of a vast deal of legislative trash, while waiting, in the vilest atmosphere conceivable by man, some agreement on the Supply bill. The Conference Committee on that bill refuse to sit during the sessions of the two Houses, apparently under the delusion that neither can get along without them. It seems to be the general impression, however, that the patience of both Houses will give way next week, even if the Governor does not sooner call in the militia to disperse them.

Messrs. Cole, Connelly, and Johnson compose the Senate Conference Committee on the Extraordinary Repairs bill. Senator Cole, as Chairman, states that his Committee will oppose any agreement or compromise which looks to returning the bill to its original character of a tax-levy, and will refuse the reinsertion of any item which cannot properly be paid out of the canal revenues.

KENTUCKY REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

GEN. JOHN M. HARLAN NOMINATED FOR GOVERNOR, THE HON. ROBERT BOYD FOR LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, AND THE HON. WILLIAM CASSIUS GOODLOE FOR ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 13.—The Republican State Convention met at the Masonic Temple in this city to-day. There was a large attendance, and the proceedings were very orderly and harmonious. Gen. John M. Harlan of Louisville was nominated for Governor; the Hon. Robert Boyd, the present State Senator from Lawrence County, for Lieutenant-Governor; and the Hon. William Cassius Goodloe, the present State Senator from Lexington County, for Attorney-General. The nomination for Superintendent of Public Instruction was left to the Executive Committee to select a candidate with reference to fitness and not politics. No nomination was made for Clerk of the Court of Appeals. After speeches by Gen. Harlan and others accepting the nomination the Convention adjourned.

The platform adopted by the Convention is a long one, reaffirming their faith in Republican principles, approving the financial policy of the Administration, and holding that the financial legislation of Congress should be steadily directed to resumption of specie payments at the earliest date consistent with the business interests of the country. The sixth resolution expresses unabated confidence in President Grant's patriotism and devotion to Republican principles. The thirteenth resolution is as follows:

Resolved, That the attempt of the Democratic leaders to create the impression that our patriotic President desires or seeks a re-election for a third term is an absurd advice to disrupt the Republican party and produce a division between it and the President; the charge has no foundation in fact, and cannot mislead the people of the country into a restoration of that party to power which came so near destroying the Union of our fathers.

JEFFERSON DAVIS'S LOYALTY TO THE FLAG.

HOUSTON, Texas, May 13.—On the fair grounds Jefferson Davis and Braxton Bragg reviewed a splendid display of military, composed largely of old Confederate soldiers. The 10th United States Infantry furnished music. Mr. Davis made a speech referring to their record as Confederate soldiers, and said they owed the same devotion to the flag under which they now live if occasion should ever come. The sentiment was received with tremendous cheering by at least 10,000 present. Gov. Coke said the greatest man of the North, Horace Greeley, and the greatest man of the South, Jefferson Davis, had now spoken from the same stand, advising the same sentiment; that the war between the Blue and the Gray was forever ended, and henceforth they would march shoulder to shoulder under the same flag. He paid a noble compliment to Mr. Greeley, and Mr. Davis for once seemed to forget his lofty dignity, and cheered heartily with the rest.

WASHINGTON.

FRAUDS IN THE INDIAN BUREAU.

THE DESTITUTION OF THE INDIANS ON THE RESERVATIONS GREATER THAN AT FIRST REPORTED—THE EXCUSES OF THE AGENTS WITHOUT FOUNDATION—RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR INDIAN OUTRAGES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The Cheyenne, Arapahoe, Comanche, Wichita, and Kiowa Indians, collected on the Reservation in the southern part of the Indian Territory, have been starving during the past Winter, except several thousand who went on the war path nearly a year ago, and who have ever since been roaming about or held as prisoners by the military. These Indians should be fed at the Fort Sill and Wichita Agencies, and Congress appropriated, for their subsistence during the current year, $300,000—50 per cent more than was spent by the Quaker agents in subsisting a greater number of Indians at the same points a year, when they last had charge of them. To the complaints that were constantly coming that there was actually no food at these Agencies, or that it was deficient in quantity and inferior in quality, the officials here have replied that the Indians are constitutionally grumblers, and that they would complain, no matter how well they were fed. At length Col. Hatch, commanding the military forces at Fort Sill, made an investigation, and found the destitution to be greater even than had been reported, although he made his examination after Congress had voted an extra appropriation for the same Indians of $300,000, and after the new beef contractor's time had expired within which he had agreed to deliver cattle. Finally Gen. Pope, in transmitting the report, added that unless the Indians were better treated he would not be responsible for an outbreak. As soon as this report was printed, the Indian Bureau hastened to break the force of it by asserting that a report had been received from Gen. Shanks, saying that the reason why the supplies had not been delivered was that the roads between Caddo and Fort Sill had been so bad that transportation over them was impossible. This turns out to be a square falsehood, for Gen. Shanks denies, to-day, that he has sent any such dispatch, and characterizes the failure to furnish supplies as a crime. The only conclusion that can be drawn from these facts is, that the story was invented in the Indian Bureau to save the contractors. The Indians who have been so badly treated are among the most difficult to manage in the West, and there is no doubt that the troubles of the past year, since a portion of them have been on the war-path, are largely due to the criminal failure of the Interior Department, and especially of the Indian Bureau, to see that the savages have been fairly dealt with. The additional fact that the Indian Bureau always defends the dishonest contractors, instead of taking measures to prevent fraud, is a very suspicious one.

The selection of Gen. Sibley of St. Paul to be chairman of the commission to examine the supplies furnished to the Indians at the Red Cloud and Whetstone Agencies, and to investigate generally the management of Agents Saville and Howard, will give very general satisfaction to the friends of honest dealings with the Indians. The hope is freely expressed that he will accept the trust and be able to visit the Agencies, and make the investigation thorough, not *ex parte*, as have been most of those which have heretofore been made at the same points.

THE WHISKY RING.

LOCAL OFFICERS OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT FAILING TO AID IN THE INVESTIGATIONS TO BE PROMPTLY DISMISSED—ADDITIONAL SEIZURES IN ST. LOUIS AND CINCINNATI.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Intelligence having reached the Secretary of the Treasury that some of the revenue officers in the cities where the whisky swindlers have been reaping a harvest are rather slow in aiding the special officers sent to work up the frauds, Gen. Bristow has sent directions to report to him by name such local officers as fail to accord hearty support to those having charge of the investigations. Such local officers who fail in their duty in this respect will be promptly dismissed. The Department was to-day informed that 818 barrels of highwines had been seized by the officers in St. Louis from Quinlan & Brothers. The rectifying establishment of Pike, Dole & Barrett, at Cincinnati, was also seized to-day. The officers engaged specially in the work under the direction of the Secretary have all been directed to continue their investigations with vigor, and they have been assured that their acts would be sustained by the Department.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

TESTIMONIAL TO JUDGE WILLIAMS.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 13, 1875.

The following correspondence explains itself:

WASHINGTON, May 10, 1875.

The Hon. GEO. H. WILLIAMS—*Dear Sir*: The undersigned and others, members of the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States in this city, are desirous of expressing to you in some suitable manner their high appreciation of your character as a gentleman and a lawyer, as well as to testify to the uniform kindness and courtesy they have individually received at your hands as Attorney-General. We therefore request that you will designate some early day when we can meet you at a dinner to be given by the bar as a testimonial of their regard and esteem for you. Very respectfully,

J. V. CASEY,	SAMUEL SHELLABARGER,
GEO. W. PASCHAL,	H. E. PAYNE,
R. M. CORWINE,	B. F. GRAFTON,
H. H. WELLS,	THOMAS WILSON,
GEO. P. FISHER,	W. B. WEBB,
ENOCH TOTTEN,	GEORGE TAYLOR,
J. W. BARTLEY,	JOHN A. J. CRESWELL.

J. W. WILSON,

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, May 11, 1875.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your letter of yesterday, proposing for me a complimentary dinner upon my retirement from the office of Attorney-General. I feel greatly obliged for this evidence of your friendly regard as well as for your flattering expressions as to the manner in which I have discharged the duties of the office. Be pleased to allow me to accept your letter as a sufficient testimonial of your kind feelings, and with many thanks decline the dinner. Very truly, yours,

GEO. H. WILLIAMS.

Messrs. Casey, Paschal, Corwine, and others.

SENATOR SPENCER'S DEFENDERS.

The friends of Senator Spencer are attempting to break the force of the accusations made against that statesman by witnesses examined by the Legislative Committee of Alabama. Ex-Congressman Pelham says that some of the circumstances related have a slight foundation, but that they have been woefully misstated and misconstrued, and when properly and correctly explained, will show nothing at all corrupt or wrong. On the other hand, it is well known to many persons in Washington that some of the most irregular and corrupt proceedings in connection with Mr. Spencer's last election are matters of record in Alabama, and that, since the main facts have long been understood, the testimony taken by the Committee has simply supplied the missing links in the chain of evidence against Mr. Spencer. There is no doubt that before the meeting of Congress a case will be made out so strong that, unless Mr. Spencer resigns, he will be expelled by vote of the Senate.

THE PAPAL LEGATION VISIT THE ISLAND INSTITUTIONS.

Yesterday the members of the Papal Legation visited the public institutions on Blackwell's, Randall's and Ward's Islands. The visit was by the special invitation of the Rev. Dr. McGlynn, Rector of St. Stephen's Church. About 50 of the clergy of the diocese of New-York, and a few members of the laity, were invited to go on the excursion. Bishops Lynch of Charleston and O'Hara of Scranton were present. The Commissioners of Charities and Correction went with the party. The steamer Arrowsmith was chartered and decorated with the Papal and American flags. A band of music was on board. The Charity Hospital, Penitentiary, and workhouse on Blackwell's Island were first visited. On the arrival of the party at Randall's Island the boys of the Island, dressed in their uniforms, were drawn up to receive them. An address welcoming Dr. McGlynn, the Papal Legation, and the visitors generally to the island home, was delivered by John Grace, the adjutant of the boys' corps. The Rev. Dr. McGlynn responded, and was followed by Monsignore Roncetti, in Italian. The speech of the Ablegate was translated by the Rev. H. McGlynn. The company then inspected the Nursery and Idiot Asylum. Addresses were delivered by Isaac H. Bailey, President of the Commission of Charities and Correction. The children were promised a holiday which should remind them of the visit by the Legation. The party next visited the hospitals, schools and chapel on Ward's Island. The party then went to Jones's Wood, where dinner was served. After dinner Hallett's Point was visited and, under the direction of Gen. Newton, the party inspected the excavations at Hell Gate. The party then returned to Twenty-sixth-st., where they disembarked.

The members of the Legation in the evening attended a reception tendered to Cardinal McCloskey at a private residence. They will soon go to Milwaukee, to deliver the *pallium* to Archbishop Henni, and afterward to Philadelphia, to deliver the *pallium* to Archbishop Wood. They will subsequently visit Canada, and will then return to New-York, whence they will take their departure for Rome. They express themselves pleased with everything they have seen thus far in what to them is a new country. Yesterday was to them the most interesting excursion that they had yet taken.

THE YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL.

ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES—THE GRADUATING CLASS—CONDITION OF THE SEMINARY—INAUGURATION OF THE LOWELL MASON LIBRARY OF CHURCH MUSIC—LECTURE COURSES—PROSPECTS FOR THE NEXT YEAR.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

NEW-HAVEN, May 13.—The anniversary exercises of the Yale Divinity School took place in the College Street Church to-day, President Porter presiding. The graduating class numbers 35, the largest ever graduated from this department. After singing and prayer the exercises were as follows, only 10 of the gentlemen presenting essays and orations, all of which were highly creditable:

"Common Sense in the Pulpit," by J. A. Biddle.
"Origen on Inspiration and Interpretation," by W. T. Jackson.
"Protestantism and Free Inquiry," by Geo. Harris.
"The Letter and the Spirit," by H. M. Ladd.
"St. Patrick," by G. C. Adams.
"The Office of Prayer in the Pulpit," by G. E. Hall.
"The Prophetic Element in Preaching," by E. D. Eaton.
"The Moral Theory of the Atonement," by N. H. Whitlesey.
"The Papal Contest in Europe, by D. S. Holbrook.
"Is Christianity Intolerant?" by C. W. Guernsey.

The names of the graduates, the colleges from which they were first graduates, and their residences are given below:

A. D. Adams, Beloit, Crystal Lake, Ill.
G. C. Adams, Amherst, Castine, Me.
A. J. Benedict, Amherst, Bethel, Conn.
J. A. Biddie, Oberlin, Galeon, Ohio.
A. L. Büttner, Wabash, Fort Wayne, Ind.
W. P. Clancy, Amherst, Miller's Falls, Mass.
S. M. Coles, Lincoln University, Guilford, Conn.
Q. L. Dowd, Oberlin, Seville, Ohio.
E. D. Eaton, Beloit, Lancaster, Wis.
O. D. Fisher, Olivet, Jamestown, Mich.
J. A. Freeman, Dartmouth, Caledonia, N. S.
L. S. Gates, Williams, Hartland, Conn.
C. W. Guernsey, Iowa College, Dubuque, Iowa.
G. E. Hall, Oberlin, Oberlin, Ohio.
Geo. Harris, Harvard University, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
S. L. Hillyer, Oberlin, Grinnell, Iowa.
D. S. Holbrook, Yale, Chester, Mass.
A. B. Irwin, Knox, Galesburg, Ill.
W. T. Jackson, Western, Poolesville, Ind.
J. A. Kaley, Wittenberg, Carey, Ohio.
H. M. Ladd, Middlebury, Constantinople, Turkey.
L. O. Lee, Oberlin, Kenosha, Wis.
D. M. Means, Yale, Andover, Mass.
C. L. Morgan, Beloit, Minneapolis, Minn.
C. F. Morse, Amherst, Stafford Springs, Conn.
M. R. Peck, Dartmouth, Brookfield, Vt.
F. C. Potter, Yale, North Woodstock, Conn.
F. B. Pullan, Beloit, Janesville, Wis.
E. P. Root, Amherst, Montague, Mass.
J. O. Stevenson, Oberlin, Noank, Conn.
A. H. Thompson, Amherst, Searsport, Me.
A. E. Todd, Yale, Ludlow, Mass.
H. A. Tucker, Beloit, Beloit, Wis.
N. H. Whittlesey, Yale, New Preston, Conn.
S. P. Wilder, Beloit, Eau Claire, Wis.

The class is of more than average ability, and unusually excellent in many respects. Two of its members, Mr. L. S. Gates and Mr. M. R. Peck, enter the foreign missionary work in India next Fall. One member is a colored man and another is blind. Several will take a respite for a season before engaging regularly in preaching. Several students have made engagements to preach, and most of them will enter upon the work at once. The seminary year just closed has been an unusually prosperous one in every respect. The number of students, which has been increasing rapidly for a few years past, has this year reached 109, representing about 35 colleges and over a dozen different religious denominations. Of the colleges most largely represented, Yale sent 20 students; Oberlin, 11; Amherst, 10; Beloit, 8, and Dartmouth, 8.

THE ALUMNI MEETING AND ANNUAL ADDRESS.

At the Seminary Alumni meeting this afternoon the Rev. Mr. Buckingham of Springfield presided, and Prof. Dwight read a report of condition and work of the Seminary for the past year. Several interesting addresses were made, prominent among which were those of President Porter and Prof. Fisher. A dinner followed, and in the evening the Rev. Dr. Burton of Hartford delivered an able and exceedingly practical anniversary address to a large audience at Centre Church. His subject was "The Fruitfulness of the Mind of the Preacher." The student, he said, should be in no haste to leave the seminary. Preachers should know theology thoroughly, for genuine preaching is simply theology applied to life. After ample preparation, the student should make haste to get out of the shell in which theological training had incased him. Individual potentialities, he continued, are not much developed until after this period. Unless there is intellectual emancipation, the student's mind will evermore be a conventional one. His hearers were urged not to take too broad topics, for much careful and close writing makes a fruitful mind. Among the eternal sources of mental fructification are theology, history, personal intercourse with men, and the direct approach of God to our souls. He urged the study of the past in connection with all these.

RAILROAD INTERESTS.

THE VALIDITY OF THE IOWA RAILROAD TARIFF AFFIRMED.

THE RIGHT TO FIX THEIR OWN TARIFFS NOT GIVEN TO THE RAILROADS BY THE STATE.

CHICAGO, May 13.—Judge Dillon of the United States Court rendered yesterday, at Des Moines, Iowa, an important opinion affirming the validity of the Iowa railroad tariff of March 23, 1873, and its application to the Burlington road, now operated by the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Company. The decision rests upon two grounds, that the State never made any grant to the Company in its charter of exclusive right to fix its own tolls, and if it did the right was surrendered by the Company to the State when it accepted the land grant in July, 1856, agreeing that the State might thereafter enact such rules and regulations as it saw fit, not inconsistent with the act and the act of Congress making the grant. Judge Dillon then discussed the general subjects, and among other points stated that the right of public control over highways results from the power and duty of providing and preserving them. In its public character a railroad is a highway or means of more rapid communication, and its public character is not divested from the fact that the ownership is private over the rights of shareholders. So far as they are private property the State has control, but the same control as over other private property. The Legislature has not conferred upon railways in the State exclusive power to fix their own charges. Railroads are subject to the exercise of the police regulations of the State. Speaking of the acceptance by the Company of the legislation of 1856, the Court holds that the Legislature meant thereby to put at rest any question that might then exist as to the subordination of the corporations accepting the grant to the legislative power of the State, so far as consistent with the preservation of their franchise.

The Court denied the Company's application for an injunction and dismissed the bill, and thereupon allowed an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

PRESIDENT GRANT REFUSES TO REMOVE SUPERINTENDENT HOAG—GOV. OSBORN TO PREFER FURTHER CHARGES AGAINST H