THE PASSENGER AGENTS.

A NEW ASSOCIATION FORMED.

THE OLD BODY DISSOLVED AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL PASSENGER AND TICKET AGENTS ORGANIZED.

The General Ticket and Passenger Agents' Association was suddenly dissolved yesterday morning, and a new organization was formed, with a constitution under which no transportation line not engaged in through passenger traffic may be represented, and other lines may be represented only by the head of the passenger department of each. The purpose is to restrict the right to a voice in making rates to those familiar with the subject and directly responsible to companies materially interested in the making of rates, and in the observance of the rules of the association.

HOW THE PLAN WAS CARRIED OUT.

AN EFFORT TO ELEVATE THE CHARACTER OF THE OLD ASSOCIATION—REVOLUTION A LAST RESORT—NEW CONSTITUTION, OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

The General Ticket and Passenger Agents' Association, after an existence of many years, came to a sudden, and to many an unexpected end yesterday morning. In a few moments, from the ruins of the old organization was built up a new and entirely distinct association, having the same purposes, and established on a basis better adapted, in the opinion of experienced passenger agents, for their accomplishment.

It has been a ground of complaint for years that roads having little or no interest in through travel have had equal representation in the old association with large trunk lines, and that men who were not general passenger or general ticket agents were members of the association as the representatives of certain roads. The old constitution was interpreted by the association so as to admit such representatives. Since the last semi-annual meeting, authorities in parliamentary law have been consulted as to the true interpretation of the constitution on this point, and the opinion was given that none except general ticket or passenger agents were eligible to membership. It was determined to make an issue on this question at the opening of the session which began on Friday. Hence the opposition to the reflection of Samuel Powell to the secretaryship, which he had held for nearly fifteen years. It was said by Mr. Shattuc, who was the leader of the opposition, and by others, that Mr. Powell was not a general agent of any road; that he was merely a Western agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and was sent as a representative of small roads to enable him to hold his office, to which a salary of $600 was attached. Mr. Powell's reelection by a small majority defeated the attempt to draw the lines of membership more strictly but the representatives of the large lines were not disheartened.

The constitution and by-laws reported Friday afternoon by the Committee of Twenty, settled the matter effectually by defining strictly, both in the name of the association and in the credential required, the qualification of members. In Saturday's debate on the report of the committee, many efforts were made to have the phraseology of these sections altered so that the organization of the association would not be materially changed, these efforts failed, however, and the constitution and by-laws passed in the form desired by the representatives of the large lines. They would not, however, have gone into effect until the next semi-annual meeting, and even then might have been defeated. In the meantime passenger rates for the next six months were to be made, and members of the association, representing mere local interests, and, in some instances, only a few miles of railroad, were there to assist in making them. One road which sent a delegate is only four miles in length, and some gentlemen were in the habit of creating a laugh by speaking of it as the Chagrin and Soda Valley Road, and by calling upon its representative to give his views on important matters. It was determined to effect a reorganization with greater rapidity and certainty than could be done under the constitution.

A QUIETUS TO THE OLD ASSOCIATION.

The plans of the managers were well laid, and were carried out with success. While most of the members of the association were visiting Coney Island on Sunday, a few remained in the city, and were in frequent consultation preparing yesterday's programme. When the excursion party returned, several members were drawn off into corners, or enticed into private rooms. As the matter became more generally canvassed, it was found that it was hardly necessary to proceed so as to take the minority unawares, as the scheme for reorganization was believed to have an overpowering majority in its favor. The matter, however, was kept very private.

The adjournment on Saturday evening was to 9 a. m. yesterday. At that hour all who were in the secret of the plans for reorganization were promptly in their seats; many of the other members were resting after the fatigue of the previous day. As soon as the meeting had been called to order J. Waldo, of the Houston and Texas Central Railway, moved that the special order of business (the making of rates) be suspended. This was seconded and was carried by the requisite two-thirds vote. F. R. Myers, of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway, at once moved that "this organization be dissolved," and supported his motion in a brief speech. It was seconded by C. P. Atmore, of the Louisville and Nashville and Great Southern Railroad. A. J. Smith, of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis Railway, moved the previous question, to cut off debate; this was seconded by W. A. Thrall, of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway; the motion prevailed by an overwhelming vote, and the old organization was dead.

ORGANIZING THE NEW BODY.

W. B. Shattuc, of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, at once sprang to his feet and gave notice that a meeting of "general passenger and general ticket agents" would immediately be held in that room. S. C. Boylston, of the Savannah and Charleston Railroad, the president of the old association, was still in the chair, and nominated Mr. Shattuc temporary chairman of the meeting. The motion prevailed and Mr. Shattuc took the chair. He then said that the meeting was of general passenger and general ticket agents only, and requested all others who might be in the room to withdraw; several gentlemen took their hats and left the room, among them Mr. Powell, the old secretary, who did not belong to the required class. A doorkeeper was then appointed, and no one was allowed to enter who was not known to be a general passenger or ticket agent. A. J. Smith was then appointed secretary.

Lucius Tuttle, of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad, moved that the meeting proceed to organize into an association, and that a committee on permanent organization be appointed. This was carried, and the following committee was chosen: Lucius Tuttle, Thomas L. Kimball, E. A. Ford, J. Waldo, D. J. Flanders.

The committee, after a brief consultation, reported the constitution and by-laws reported on Friday by the Committee of Twenty and amended by the defunct association on Saturday. One change only was made, and that was required by the emergency of the case. Each member certifies to his own credential, instead of having the general manager of the company certify to it. The credential is then referred to the Executive Committee to pass upon before the applicant can be admitted. The report was accepted and the constitution and by-laws were adopted, the previous question having been called. A motion to reconsider was made and laid on the table, thus preventing reconsideration during the present session.

A temporary Committee on Credentials was appointed, and the meeting adjourned until blank credentials could be printed. During this temporary organization many old members applied for admission to the hall and were refused. Among them was the representative of the Chagrin and Soda Valley Road, who took an appeal from the decision of the chair while standing outside the curtained door, hooking the curtains apart. The decision was sustained.

After a brief intermission the credentials arrived, and application for membership was duly made by sixty-six members of the old organization, who were favorably reported upon by the committee, and became members of the new association. The largest vote recorded on Saturday is said to have been 94, but the actual members of the old association numbered 188. The number who are ruled out by the present constitution is variously estimated from twenty to fifty.

The association became permanently organized by the election of the following officers:

President—S. C. Boylston, of the Savannah and Charleston Railroad.

Vice-President—W. B. Shattuc, of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway.

Secretary—A. J. Smith, of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis Railway.

Executive Committee—F. R. Myers, of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway; C. P. Atmore, of the Louisville and Nashville and Great Southern Railroad; C. E. Follett, of the St. Louis, Vandalia and Terre Haute Railroad; Lucius Tuttle, of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad; John R. Macmurdo, of the Richmond and Danville Railroad; Thomas L. Kimball, of the Union Pacific Railroad; L. M. Cole, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

General Committee—E. A. Ford, of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway; J. Waldo, of the Houston and Texas Central Railway; W. P. Johnson, of the Illinois Central Railroad; E. R. Dorsey, of the Georgia Railroad; E. Gallop, of the Boston and Albany Railroad; S. S. Parker, of the Louisville, Cincinnati and Lexington Railway; L. P. Farmer, of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

THE WORK OF MAKING RATES.

The first order of business after the enrolment of new members is the making of rates, and to this task the association applied itself late in the afternoon. The work will not be concluded for several days, and there are those who believe the entire week will be consumed by it. There is to be an entire revision of the rate sheet, and rates are to be made on an entirely new basis. On the present rate sheets there are only unlimited rates. On the new sheets there will be first-class limited; first-class unlimited; second-class limited, and third-class or emigrant rates.

The feeling last night among members of the association was one of unmixed gratification at the result of the day's work. They believe that rates will be adjusted more equitably, and will be adhered to with greater fidelity. The association will be constituted of men at the head of the passenger business of their several lines, and who thoroughly understand passenger traffic; it will belong to general passenger and ticket agents, not to the railroad companies, and the privacy of their sessions will exclude lobby influences. There are sanguine members who believe that the results of the present convention will be greater than those of any convention ever held by the old association.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

FREDERICK A. FREEMAN'S ARREST.

JUDGE DANIELS DECIDES THAT THE ORDER OF ARREST CANNOT BE INTERFERED WITH.

In the suit of Henry R. Pierson, receiver of the Guardian Mutual, against Frederick A. Freeman, the Supreme Court, General Term, Judge Daniels giving the opinion, has refused to interfere with the order of arrest. Judge Daniels, in the opinion given by him, calls attention to the fact that before the General Term no question is raised as to the amount of bail, and the only question is whether the arrest will be sustained at all. The ground of the order is that the defendants conspired to cheat and defraud the Guardian Mutual Life Insurance Company, its policy-holders and creditors. This did not fully comply with Rule 13, which requires in the order a brief statement of the grounds on which it was made. It should have been added that the conspiracy had been carried into effect to the injury of the company. But it does state all required in Section 561 of the Code, and so the omission does not warrant the vacation of the order, but may be corrected.

Judge Daniels further says: "The important point in the case * * * is the sufficiency of the affidavits upon which the order itself was made. As to them it has been objected that the one setting forth the facts of the defendant's misconduct was based only upon information. * * * But a reading of the affidavit discloses that to be a misapprehension of its nature, for so far as the moving defendant has been implicated, the facts relied upon have been positively stated. The person making it had been engaged in an examination of the company's books of account, but that statement was not followed by any disclosure that the facts were averred upon what had been discovered in the course of or by means of that examination. It was further added that he had been for a long time in the employment of the plaintiff. And then the statement was made in terms indicating it to have been the intention of the person deposing to make a positive allegation of fact.

"The affidavit contained a direct statement of facts showing that the defendants had unlawfully conspired, for their own benefit, for the purchase at a rate above par of a large amount of depreciated stock in another company; that they had made the purchase and misappropriated the funds of the Guardian Life Insurance Company to the payment of the price. And at that time it is averred that the appealing defendant and at least one of his confederates knew that the stock so purchased was worth less than par. * * * The affidavit showed a loss to the company by means of these transactions exceeding the amount mentioned in the order of arrest; and as they were such as must have been within the knowledge of the defendant, his omission to deny them very materially advances the probability that they have been truly stated in the affidavits on which the order was made. The order appears to have been warranted by the facts, and the order denying the motion to vacate it should be affirmed."

TWO CURIOUS SUNDAY MEETINGS.

A CHINAMAN ADDRESSES A SUNDAY-SCHOOL—THE COMMUNISTS CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARIS COMMUNE.

It was considered a curious and novel sight on Sunday to see a Chinaman, Moy Jin Kee, addressing a Sunday-school meeting at St James's Methodist Episcopal Church, in Madison-ave., Harlem. It was "Missionary Day," and that was one of the features of its observance. Moy Jin Kee was properly introduced, and among his remarks was a comparison of the religion of his nation and that of the children before him. "We worship," said he, "one Great Spirit and many Josses; you a Great Spirit and His Son. But the Americans could learn something of my people. Confucius said that drink was worse than a rattlesnake—rattlesnakes don't abuse their own children. The Chinese think drinking very bad; but they do something very bad too—they smoke opium. But the man who smokes opium don't abuse his children—he only hurts himself." Then hymns were sung and prayers uttered, and other addresses were made by prominent Methodists.

While this meeting was in progress, the Society of French Refugees in this city were celebrating the eighth anniversary of the Paris Commune by a ball, concert and banquet at Clarendon Hall, in East Thirteenth-st. The hall was filled to overflowing. Red flags with sanguinary mottoes were hung on all sides of the room. Knots of red ribbon combined with sprays of immortelles stained red were tied in the buttonholes of the men or fastened in the women's hair. Each ticket for admission to the hall bore a number and some of the numbers drew prizes, which were given out at the dancing late at night. The prizes consisted of ladies' ties, bottles of cologne, wine and bay rum, hand-mirrors, card-baskets, books and pincushions. There were fiery red speeches, recitations and poems, directed against priests and governments.

ASSERTING HIS LEGITIMACY.

CONTEST OF THE ALLEGED SON OF JOHN A. MERRITT FOR HIS FATHER'S MILLIONS.

The suit recently begun in the Supreme Court by William J. Merritt, familiarly known as William J. Wilson, to decide the question whether he is or is not the legitimate son and heir-at-law of the late John A. Merritt, the millionaire cattle dealer of Port Chester, and as such entitled to the estate left by the latter, was called for trial before a struck jury in the Circuit Court, Justice Dykman presiding, at White Plains yesterday. This step has been taken because Surrogate Coffin, of Westchester County, in the course of proceedings had in his court, decided against the claims of Wilson, and in favor of fourteen first cousins.

John A. Merritt died in April, 1876, and left about $1,200,000 in personal property, and about $70,000 in real estate. Having failed to sign a will prepared for him on the day before his death, Jacob Campbell, president of the Pacific Bank of this city, and Jared V. Peck, a first cousin of the dead man, were appointed administrators. In the early proceedings had in the matter, Mrs. Eliza Wilson made her appearance, and through her counsel claimed to be the widow of John A. Merritt, intestate, and asserted that W. J. Merritt or Wilson was the issue of this union, which had taken place Quaker fashion.

Eleven jurors were obtained yesterday and twenty-five more have been summoned from the ordinary tally list, and from which it is expected that the jury can be completed. It is understood that about 250 witnesses have been summoned to testify in the case.

ARGUMENT ON "RED" LEARY'S CASE.

John Leary, known as "Red" Leary, was arrested in this city on the warrant of Governor Robinson, issued on the requisition of the Governor of Massachusetts as one of those concerned in the Northampton Bank robbery. His surrender was stayed by a writ of habeas corpus, which Judge Davis dismissed, and then by a writ of certiorari to review the decision of Judge Davis. The questions involved were argued at great length yesterday in Supreme Court, General Term, by Peter Mitchell for the prisoner, and Winchester Britton for the prosecution. Mr. Mitchell claimed that the proof of the identity of the prisoner was insufficient; that there was no proof that the prisoner was a fugitive from justice; that the Court had a right to have all the papers on which the Governor acted before surrendering a citizen to a foreign jurisdiction; and that all these points except the first were established by the United States Courts in passing on the effect of the clause in the Constitution which authorizes extradition warrants. Mr. Britton's brief was even more elaborate. Citing various State authorities, he claimed that the Governor's decision that a man should be surrendered was final, unless it could be proved that the man was not the one intended. It was final as to the questions whether he was a fugitive, whether the demand was in proper form, and whether a crime coming within the Constitution was charged. He also cited at length United States authorities. The Court reserved its decision.

A SEQUEL TO THE INCENDIARY TRIALS.

Three men, Bernstein, Perlstein and Freeman, on separate trials were recently convicted of arson in setting fire to a tenement-house in order to obtain insurance. The careful work of Fire Marshal Sheldon, of Mr. Perley, a son of the Fire Commissioner, and of Mr. Dempsey in tracking these men seemed proved by the immediate decrease of fires in the neighborhood. All the accused men had the same defence—a more or less elaborate alibi—and each made out, if his witnesses were to be believed, a perfect alibi. District-Attorney Rollins, who conducted the trial of the incendiaries, determined to suppress this kind of defence, and therefore had Cohen Davis, one of Freeman's chief witnesses, indicted for perjury. The trial of Davis was begun yesterday before Judge Gildersleeve in the Court of General Sessions.

The proof thus far given is that on the evening of November 10, when Perley and Demspey saw Freeman in company with the other incendiaries, Freeman said he was at his own home celebrating the birthday of his young son Jacob. Other testimony showed that Jacob's birthday was not November 10, but October 25. There was given by him also as another reason for remembering the day, that his mother died on November 10. In opening the case, Assistant District-Attorney Rollins stated that recent developments seemed to show that there existed in this city certain partnerships of persons banded together to commit arson, and of others banded together to furnish perjured evidence. He mentioned what had recently occurred in a proceeding before Police Justice Murray. He then put in the formal evidence showing the testimony of the prisoner and its complete contradiction.

Charles S. Spencer will present the defence to-day.

A MONUMENT TO JOHN STARK AND HIS MEN.

A communication from the Governors of Massachusetts, New-Hampshire and Vermont has been received by the officers of the New-England Society of this city, appealing to the sons and daughters of New-England, and especially to those of Vermont, Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, to aid financially in the erection of a monument at Bennington, Vt., to commemorate the deeds of the men of those three States who, on August 16, 1777, under the command of John Stark, achieved a victory over the British which sealed the fate of Burgoyne's Army, and secured the independence of the Colonies. The board of officers on March 12 adopted a resolution heartily approving the request of the Governors, and recommending it to the favorable consideration of the sons and daughters of New-England or of New-England ancestry.

NEW EAST RIVER FERRIES.

A bill is now before the Legislature awaiting action to incorporate the Wallabout and New-York Ferry Company, which proposes to run boats from a point in Wallabout Bay, Brooklyn, near Washington, Vanderbilt or Clinton-ave. to a pier between Catherine and Wall-sts., and also to a point between Twenty-first and Twenty-fifth-sts., in this city. The capital of the company will be $500,000. The persons named in the bill as incorporators are William Marshell, Albert Daggett, Robinson Gill, Henry W. Slocum, Stephen H. Herriman, Charles S. Higgins, Anthony S. Livingstone, James G. Hammill, James Shotwell, James W. Beele and Edward Brodhead.

Charles S. Higgins, of No. 94 Wall-st., was asked yesterday about the project. "I believe," said he, "that it would be a great public benefit and do more for Brooklyn than rapid transit can. The foot of Washington-ave. is the most central point on the water-front of the city. It can be reached in twenty minutes from nearly every part of the city, and it will take no more time to cross by that ferry than any other. There is a long stretch from Main-st. to Broadway, in the Eastern District, that has no direct communication with this city, and the new ferry would be a great accommodation to many persons living on the Hill, and even as far up as the Park. There will be no opposition to it among the residents of the city, I am sure. The existing corporations may oppose it. If the charter is granted I think there will be no difficulty in obtaining the water privileges for the slips and ferryhouses."

The Nassau Ferry Company, which controls the ferry from the foot of Houston-st. in New-York to the foot of Grand-st., Brooklyn, is also preparing to extend its business, and to run boats from Long Island City to a slip between Seventh and Eighth-sts., this city. The president of the company says that application will be made to the city for the privilege, and the line will be established speedily.

THE BUTTER SCULPTRESS IN TROUBLE.

A strange piece of baggage, belonging to one of the lady passengers who came in the steerage of the White Star steamship Germanic, from Liverpool yesterday, attracted much attention before it was landed, because of the eager watchfulness over it by its owner and her directions to those handling it. The lady was unknown to the passengers occupying the same part of the vessel with her, as she was very reserved in her manner. Hardly anyone knew her name until it was seen on the peculiarly shaped box as "Caroline S. Brooks." The lady was sad throughout the voyage, but no one ventured to inquire into her troubles. The mysterious box stood about five feet high, about thirty inches square at the top, and tapered off at the bottom. She begged the Custom House officials not to open the box, and when they told her that they must inspect every piece of baggage, she urged them not to open it on the steamer, and followed it to the Castle Garden steamer, thence to the immigrant depot, or baggage room, at Castle Garden, where it was opened in her presence and found to contain a plaster figure. The lady gave a few words of explanation, but begged that her examination would not be too inquisitorial.

Caroline S. Brooks is the person who made in butter the head of "Iolanthe," which attracted so much attention at the Centennial Exposition. With nine pounds of butter, in a milk pan fifteen inches in diameter, with a few cedar sticks, broom straws and a camel's-hair pencil, without a model to work from, and on a kitchen table in Helena, Arkansas, she made this head, and then travelled with it 2,000 miles to the Exposition, where it was exhibited. At the opening of the Paris Exposition she took her work to Europe, but arrived too late to put it in the exhibition. Since that time she has taken lessons in sculpture, and after meeting with many reverses returned home, being obliged to come as a steerage passenger. She left the Garden immediately after the examination of her box, which still remains there, but which will probably be taken away to-day.

A CLAIM FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

Augustine R. McDonald, under the Treaty of Washington, obtained an award of $200,000, as a British subject, for cotton taken by the United States troops. He promised his counsel one-fourth of his recovery, which was to be a lien on the recovery. It was claimed by his counsel, Charles E. Hovey and William P. Dole, that he had made an assignment of all his claim to defeat their claim, and they brought a suit in Washington in which it was ordered that half the recovery should be deposited with bankers there to await the result of their suit. By some means the bonds in which this money was invested were withdrawn, as the plaintiffs claim, by McDonald. At last the plaintiffs recovered a judgment against him for the return of the securities, but they say he has fled and converted the bonds to his own use, and they have brought a suit in this State on their Washington judgment. On these statements Judge Speir granted an order of arrest, fixing the bail of McDonald at $50,000. McDonald was arrested, and made a motion before Judge Freedman, in Supreme Court, Special Term, on the ground that the case was not within the provisions of the Code allowing an order of arrest. Judge Freedman denied, yesterday, the motion, with costs. Douglas Campbell appeared for plaintiffs; Charles W. Bangs for defendant.

ART EXHIBITS BROUGHT HOME.

The United States ship Supply and the ship Trimountain arrived yesterday from Havre, with the exhibits from the Paris Exposition. The Supply has all of the art exhibits, 22 cases, and about 600 tons of freight. She anchored off the Battery and to-day will go to Martin's Stores, Brooklyn, to discharge her freight. The Supply left Havre on January 2, arrived at the Madeira Islands on January 27, and left there four days afterward. Her voyage from Havre to the Madeiras was exceedingly stormy, and on January 12 she ran into the British bark Diadem, of Swansea, but neither vessel was much damaged.

OUTRAGES IN THE SOUTH.

A MEETING OF COLORED RESIDENTS IN SHILOH CHURCH—THE REV. HENRY HIGHLAND GARNET'S SPEECH—THE REV. WILLIS A. HODGES TELLS THE STORY OF HIS SUFFERINGS.

A meeting of colored residents, to discuss the outrages committed against the colored people in some of the Southern States, was held last evening in Shiloh Church. Much feeling was shown over the condition of the colored people at the South and the lukewarmness of their brethren in New-York. The audience, including half a dozen white persons, filled two-thirds of the church, and was slow in assembling. The Rev. Dr. Henry Highland Garnet was asked to preside, and said, after reading the call, "None of the reverend gentlemen who have signed the call are present. I know that the Rev. Mr. Roy is sick. A letter received from James H. Piatt, ex-member of Congress from Virginia, explains that he is unable to be present. He hails from the country in which the Rev. Willis A. Hodges, who will address you this evening, was persecuted, imprisoned and driven from his home. I have known Mr. Hodges from my youth up. It has been said that as soon as emancipation was proclaimed we would see a black stream flowing from the South to the North. But the contrary happened, and many colored men who sought refuge in the North returned South, actuated by a desire to help their brethren. To-day the colored men of the South vote with the best men of the North. The scarcest man to find in the South is a black traitor. Have you ever seen a black 'Copperhead'? I want to say that I am astonished that the people of the South are so slow in coming to see their best interests. The present bitterness of spirit comes from reconstructed rebels, but there will be a new generation feeling a juster humanity. To-day the Government is almost entirely in the hands of rebels, and its councils are filled by men from whose hands have scarcely been washed the stains of the blood they shed in trying to overthrow this Government."

After the reading of the letter of Mr. Platt the Rev. Mr. Hodges was introduced. He was dressed in well-worn gray clothes, showed some infirmities with his sixty-five years, and spoke in a straightforward manner. His statement was rambling, and the main facts were published in THE TRIBUNE of February 21 and 22, a correspondent having been sent to Norfolk to confirm the story Mr. Hodges brought North. Briefly, he was a leader among the blacks and chairman of the Republican Committee of Princess Anne County. On election day it was supposed that the Republicans had a large majority, but there was found to be only 28 Republican majority. A white man began to curse Mr. Hodges for complaining of this result. An altercation followed, about twenty white men advanced on the negroes with revolvers, and half a dozen colored men returned the fire poured into them, one man being wounded on each side. A little later Dr. Baxter rode up on a white horse, and "Tom" Elliott, an old colored preacher, was shot in cold blood, and five others are wounded. Before this happened, Mr. Hodges was well toward home. The next day, with two of the wounded, he drove to the County Court House to swear out warrants against the murderer of "Tom" Elliott. His house was attacked and he was obliged to flee for his life, but in his determination to maintain his rights he came back and was arrested on a charge of having fomented the riot. He was thrown into jail but finally compromised by leaving the State. They stole the old man's crops, live stock and household effects and left him penniless. He said that as soon as he could bring his family North, he should work to help the widow and four children of "Tom" Elliott, who were in equal distress.

Resolutions were adopted declaring that the danger to Republican institutions and the weakness of the Government was apparent in the inability or unwillingness of the Executive power to protect the lives, the property and the rights of the humblest citizens. It was also resolved to take steps to bring the family of Mr. Hodges north. Dr. Grant said it would take about $50 to do this, and called for subscriptions.

An intelligent young man arose and raised a stump of an arm. "There is blood in my veins, he said, and it has not so boiled since I met those Rebels in front of Petersburg. I left a part of my body there, and I feel as if I could leave the rest of it. I promise a dollar for Mr. Hodges, and will pay it to-morrow." [Applause.]

George I. Downing said: "Any one coming to this meeting would suppose that the colored men of New-York had no sympathy with pleading humanity. I have just been thinking whether we haven't too much religion of a kind. So much of it from Monday morning to Sunday night that we haven't time to think of humanity and our vital interests as citizens. Where are the ministers who called this meeting? Where is the blood of our race? Look at that gray-headed man whose wife and children are in bondage in the South. Do you know that the spirit of the South is getting control of the Government, and contemplates annulling the constitutional amendments? If you bear respect for your manhood and your citizenship now is the time to act."

HOME NEWS.

THERMOMETER YESTERDAY AT RUDNUT'S, NO. 218 BROADWAY.

9 a. m., 42°. Noon, 46°. 3 p. m., 45°. Midnight, 31°.
Highest during the day, 46°. Lowest, 31°.
Average, 39⅝. Same day, 1878, 39°.

PROMINENT ARRIVALS.

Astor House—The Hon. Isaac P. Christiancy, United States Minister to Peru.....*Buckingham Hotel*—General Robert C. Schenck, of Ohio.....*Fifth Avenue Hotel*—Ex-Governor Andrew G. Curtin and Asa Packer, of Pennsylvania, and William Goddard, of Rhode Island.....*Everett House*—Franklin B. Gowen, President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.....*St. James Hotel*—Senators Theodore M. Pomeroy, of Auburn, and Dennis McCarthy, of Syracuse, and Lieutenant-Commander John Schouler, U. S. N.....*Everett House*—Ole Bull.....*Metropolitan House*—Alexander Mitchell, President of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company.....*Park Avenue Hotel*—General James H. Leslie, of Syracuse.....*Metropolitan Hotel*—Jacob Vanatta, of New-Jersey.....*Westminster Hotel*—Alfred Wilkinson, of Syracuse.....*Gilsey House*—Surgeon F. L. Town, U. S. A.

NEW-YORK CITY.

The newest lace is the black Breton.

Worth's last dresses are shorter even than those now worn here.

Few persons were to be seen at the Manhattan Bank yesterday morning, and the run is considered at an end.

New dresses at Arnold & Constable's are of grenadine combined with satin, and trimmed with the new black Breton lace.

The Pennsylvania Coal Company circular for April, just issued, shows an advance of about 5 cents a ton on each grade of coal.

The steamer Moselle, which arrived from Bremen yesterday, contained a cargo of animals for P. T. Barnum, among them being elephants, elands and a tapir.

Henry Ward Beecher will deliver his new lecture, entitled "Why should the Chinese go?" to-morrow evening at the Thirty-fourth Street Reformed Church, between Eighth and Ninth-aves.

A petition was in circulation on the Produce Exchange yesterday in opposition to a new building; and another petition was circulated asking for a division of the surplus fund. Neither petition received many signatures.

Charles Dennison has been elected president of the Grocers' Bank in place of Samuel B. White, resigned. Charles Dennison, the father of the new president, was the founder of the bank, and held its presidency during his lifetime.

A representative of the Municipality of St. Petersburg, whose card bears the name "H. M. B. Bary," was busy yesterday examining the apparatus and workings of the New-York Fire Department. It is said that the St. Petersburg authorities intend to engage several New-York fire officers to introduce the system in the Russian capital.

In announcing the embarrassment in business of H. E. Oakley & Co., of No. 68 Pearl-st., last week, THE TRIBUNE stated that it was in part caused by their indorsing for Oakley & Place, of Oswego. A member of the latter firm said yesterday that this report was untrue, and that Oakley & Place hold H. E. Oakley & Co.'s paper to the amount of $1,200.

It was officially stated yesterday that the last rail of the Chicago and Alton Railroad extension had been laid at the Kansas City end, and that the new route would be in readiness for regular trains by April 1. The equipment of the Chicago and Alton, it is stated, will be increased, contracts having been made for seven new locomotive engines, 1,000 freight cars, ten passenger coaches and three Pullman sleepers.

Maurice V. Freund has sued Mrs. Theresa Percy Bell for $25,000 for his services as her agent in 1876 and 1877, and has secured an attachment against her property, mainly diamonds. Mrs. Bell at once gave all needed security to release her diamonds, but her counsel applied to the Court for the vacation of the attachment on the ground that the claim was wholly without foundation. Judge Lawrence, on motion of Joseph I. Stein, directed that the plaintiff give security for $2,000 on the attachment.

BROOKLYN.

A sign of Spring: Forty building permits were issued in Brooklyn last week.

During February fifty prisoners, whose sentences did not exceed six months each, were sent to the Kings County Penitentiary.

The Common Council refused yesterday, by a vote of 15 to 8, to adopt a resolution appropriating $250 for the expenses of the Committee on Legislation in going to Albany to advocate or oppose certain bills pending before the Legislature.

Detective Short yesterday arrested Edward Burke, of No. 828 Park-ave., on a warrant charging him with being implicated in robbing Mrs. Amelia Holman, of No. 22 Broadway, of $1,600, which she had drawn from a savings bank, on September 26, 1878.

The Fulton Municipal Gas Company of the City of Brooklyn has been incorporated, with a capital of $1,500,000. The directors are James N. Smith, William Schwarzwaelder, George H. Roberts, F. F. Jones, William Foster, P. H. Dickinson and Henry S. Bennett.

A number of property-owners in the county towns met yesterday in the County Treasurer's office to express their opposition to the proposed annexation of the towns to the City of Brooklyn. A committee was appointed to visit Albany and oppose the bill having that project in view.

J. E. Weeks, who was associated with Samuel Y. Hines in the hoax played Sunday night upon the audience which gathered at Everett Hall to witness marvellous spiritualistic phenomena, was arrested in Chatham-st., New-York, yesterday. Both prisoners pleaded not guilty before Justice Walsh, and were held for examination to-morrow.

POSTSCRIPT

3:45 a. m.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

ERIE RAILWAY.

LONDON, Tuesday, March 18, 1879.

The Times, in its financial column, says the Erie Railway reconstruction trustees, at their meeting to-day, will consider the resignations of Sir Edward Watkin and another trustee, which have been tendered.

A FRENCH VILLAGE BURNED.

PARIS, Tuesday, March 18, 1879.

The village of Vernet, near Vichy, containing 100 houses, has been totally destroyed by fire.

[For other Foreign News see First Page.]

MARIE ROZE'S NEW CONTRACT.

A contract was signed last evening between Max Strakosch and Marie Röze-Mapleson, engaging the prima donna for an operatic season in San Francisco beginning April 16. Mme. Röze will appear in "Aida," "Carmen," "The Huguenots," "Il Trovatore," "La Favorita," "Mignon" and "Faust." At the expiration of this engagement Mme. Röze will return to Her Majesty's Opera in London, where she will appear early in July.

A NEW-YORK YACHT BURNED.

WILMINGTON, N. C., March 17.—The steam yacht Elizabeth, from New-York for Charleston, stranded in Rich Inlet, took fire and was totally destroyed. The crew are safe.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises..... 6:06 | Sun sets..... 6:10 | Clock fast. 8m.12s.
Moon rises.... 4:00 | Moon south. 10:03 | Moon's age, days 26

HIGH WATER TO-DAY—A. M.

Sandy Hook.. 4:25 | Gov. Island.. 4:54 | Hell Gate..... 6:43

HIGH WATER TO-DAY—P. M.

Sandy Hook.. 4:52 | Gov. Island.. 5:35 | Hell Gate..... 7:24

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

FROM LIVERPOOL—*By Steamship Erin.*—T. Rogers, S. Fisher, L. Lloyd, C. Boyds, E. F. Davies, W. Wavies, Mr. and Mrs. J. Turner, J. Hey, Mrs. Varley and three children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Bevan and two children, Wm. Gregory, Wm. Calvert, Mrs. E. A. Gunsch, J. Robinson, Miss Shephard, H. Ward, Mr. Irvin, A. Stewart.

FROM ROTTERDAM—*By Steamship Schiedam.*—Mr. and Mrs. C. Bert, Mrs. Oxenaar and children, J. Werner, H. Feich, A. Baum, P. Wenzel, C. Krebs, P. Klein, Miss Mary Dritsch, A. Kolmel, Miss E. Nold, J. Karch, Miss M. Riebel, L. Hermann, D. Stiefelmeier, Miss C. Wacker, B. Langedorfer, J. Spohrer, J. Streil, J. Reichert, J. Wesp, E. Schafer, Carl Weyel, Mr. and Mrs. P. Hank, J. Tails, A. Krauft, J. Schaffer, A. Faust, N. Wenz, L. Summit, A. Hirth, H. Teutschel, J. Scheller, M. Benedikt, R. Clement, D. Behrer, C. Umeyer, J. Umeyer, G. Diehl, J. Vos, Miss L. Krukenberg, J. Klein, Miss J. van Eden, R. Meyer, Miss A. Stranahan, Mrs. E. Hirsch and children.

FROM HAVANA—*By Steamship Santiago de Cuba.*—H. Antaine, M. Quintard, F. Aballi, C. Behien, J. M. Clark, F. Maricini, S. Hyman.

HYDROGRAPHIC REPORT.

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE, CHART DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Mar. 17, 1879.

The following is the report of the United States Hydrographic Office for the week ending March 15, 1879:

CHARTS PUBLISHED DURING THE WEEK.

No. of Chart, 657a. Title, English Channel, Sheet 1, Western Part. Size, 33x34. D 5.8. Price, 40 cents. Kind, engraved.

No. of Chart, 657. Title, English Channel, Sheet 2, Eastern Part. Size, 33x34, D 5.8. Price, 40 cents. Kind, engraved.

No. of Chart, 861. Title, Ports on the Coast of Chili. Size, 21x29, M 2-10. Price, 21 cents. Kind, photo-lithograph.

CHARTS CORRECTED DURING THE WEEK.

No. of Chart, 13. Title, South Pacific Ocean, Sheet 3, Western Part. Correction, Island of volcanic origin discovered in lat. 19° 11' S., lon. 171° 49' W., and two coral banks discovered, one in lat. 20° 55' S., lon. 174° 58' W., and the other in lat. 20° 52' S., lon. 175° 6' W.

No. of Chart, 101. Title, Eastern Group Feejee Islands, Sheet 3. Correction, the reef from the north point of Rabi Island extends further north than the chart shows.

No. of Chart, 109. Title, Moala Island, Feejee Group. Correction, two coral patches discovered in the Fairway through northern channel to Herald Roadstead.

No. of Chart, 715. Title, Harbors of Kandaru Island, Feejee. Correction, iron beacon placed on north end of Pearl Reef, Ngaloa Harbor.

No. of Chart, 576. Title, New-Caledonia, Southeast Part. Correction, beacons placed on shoals at entrance to Noumea, and only 15 feet of water found in the northern passage; also beacons placed on shoals at northeast end of Ducos Island, on northwest point of Hydrography Shoal, and on Moximan Shoal.

No. of Chart, 126. Title, Islands in the Union Group. Correction, reef discovered, a wash off the west and southwest sides of Oatafu Island, distant about three miles.

No. of Chart, 528. Title, North Pacific Ocean, Sheet 3. Correction, Jabwat Island has been found by a late survey to be in lat. 8° 27' N., lon. 168° 26' E., and size and character of Greenwich Islands, lat. 1° 4' N., lon. 154° 45' E., have been changed.

No. of Chart, 816. Title, New-Hanover, New-Ireland and New-Britain. Correction, a dangerous reef extends about half a mile northeast of Cape Luen, and a sand islet is found about two miles westward of Cape Lambert, New-Britain.

No. of Chart, 43b. Title, Indian Ocean, Northern Portion. Correction, shoal discovered northeast of Cheduba Island, in lat. 19° 2' N., lon. 93° 21' 30" E., Bay of Bengal.

No. of Chart, 13. Title, South Pacific Ocean, Sheet 3, Western Part. Correction, change in character of light on low island inner route to Torres Straits, and change in light on Flat Top Island, Pioneer River, Australia.

SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVED.

PORT OF NEW-YORK.....Mar. 17.

Str Erin (Br), Andrews, Liverpool Mar 5, via Queenstown 6 to F W J Hurst.

Str Teniers (Belg), Yarley, Rio Janeiro 23 days, with coffee to Busk & Jevons.

Str Santiago de Cuba, Foote, Havana Mar 12, to William P Cly