master at Amsterdam was appointed upon Starin's recommendation and without the assent or even the knowledge of Mr. West. And the man appointed was the opponent and sometimes bitter assailant of the late Senator Wagner.

It is well understood that this Administration—including Mr. Starin—has so far refused to accept the recommendations of Mr. West for postmaster in Saratoga Springs. It is just as well understood that Mr. West has named several men who would be acceptable to him, having no personal choice to antagonize the Administration—excluding Mr. Starin. He has named, it is well known, Republicans who have proved their fidelity and their patriotism by personal service during the war of the rebellion and upholding Republican principles ever since as bravely as they did then. To the claims of all such the ear of the Administration is deaf, so far. As there is not a "brass medal" man in the place, nor in the district, a good many people would like to know if Saratoga Springs can have a pos tmaster by the favor of Mr. Starin. H. B.

Albany, March 20, 1882.

A NEW-YORK BOY FALSELY ACCUSED.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The accusation has been very widely telegraphed through the United States that one of the boys sent out to Iowa by the New-York Children's Aid Society, named George Vredenburg, had been guilty of the detestable crime of wrecking a railroad train. It is true that the lad was arrested on suspicion, but his own employer and the most respectable of the neighbors believed him innocent. His case has recently come before the court in Vinton, Iowa, and as we all expected, the indictment was immediately dropped—probably owing to the confession of one of the parties implicated. The crime was evidently committed by persons resident in the village and the "New-York Orphan" had no part or lot in the matter. This accusation was even used in the Legislature in the State of Iowa, to check the sending of poor children from New-York to the West. We almost despair of any defence travelling as far as the accusation, but in the interests of a great charity, we trust your columns will give circulation to the facts. Yours with respect, C. L. BRACE,

Secretary Children's Aid Society.

New-York, March 20, 1882.

RAILROAD INTERESTS.

REGULATING PASSENGER BUSINESS.

NEW FEATURES OF THE PROPOSED PASSENGER POOL OF THE WESTERN RAILROADS.

The National Association of General Passenger and Ticket Agents finished the business of its annual meeting in this city yesterday. The election of officers resulted in the choice of E. P. Wilson, general passenger agent of the Cincinnati Southern Railroad, and formerly vice-president of the Association, as president; Lucius Tuttle, general ticket agent of the Eastern Railroad of Massachusetts, as vice-president, and A. J. Smith, of the "Bee Line," as secretary. A resolution was adopted instructing ticket agents to be more careful in the future in fixing dates on limited tickets. The general subject of limited tickets goes over to the Montreal meeting in September, and before the time of that meeting it is expected that the passenger pool arrangements will have been completed, so as to abolish many of the evils now complained of with regard to "stop over" privileges. The carrying out of the proposed "pooling" arrangement, railroad men say, will render the conservative measures adopted by many of the outside organizations of passenger and ticket agents entirely unnecessary.

The question of paying commissions for the procurement of passenger business was briefly considered by some of the representatives of the Western railroads which are interested in the plan of Pool-Commissioner Dixon, as outlined in THE TRIBUNE yesterday. No one present, however, seemed ready for action, and the matter was referred to a committee to report at some future conference.

W. B. Shattuc, general ticket agent of the New-York, Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad Company, in a talk with a TRIBUNE reporter, said: "Many of the questions which these ticket agents are now considering will be fully solved when the proposed passenger pool of the Western roads is carried out. There is no doubt that our pool will be successful. We have decided to pool all our passenger earnings, through and local, except where it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of everybody that the earnings which a road may desire to keep out of the pool are purely non-competitive. The percentages of the agreeing roads will be based, but only in a general way, on the proportion of the traffic which they enjoyed last year. The longer and least attractive roads will be allowed a differential rate as against the shorter or more attractive lines. This is done to enable the less favored lines to preserve their actual traffic. These lines could not afford to take monthly payments of money for excess of traffic from the shorter or more favorably-situated roads in lieu of actual business, because they want to keep their customers in case of a possible destruction of the passenger pool.

"In the pooling schemes heretofore proposed," Mr. Shattuc continued, "the road which carried an excess of its pool percentage was allowed to turn over the excess in money after the expenses were deducted. Thus allowance for expenses of excess business alone gave an advantage to roads which wished to work in an underhand way. Under the new plan any road which does more business than its percentage in the pool, must do that excess business at a total loss in the carriage of it."

Full provision is made in the proposed passenger pool for the arbitration of disputed questions between the different roads.

WORK ON THE MEXICAN CENTRAL.

BOSTON, March 22.—*The Transcript's* financial article has the following: "Mexican Central securities were higher to-day, the seven per cent bonds advancing from 81 to 85. The Mexican Central Railroad reached Queretaro the middle of February, and on February 16 began the operation of 153 miles out from the City of Mexico, where 118 miles had previously been operated. The earnings for January and February have been received, and compare as follows: January, $29,073; average miles operated, 118; February, $36,538; average miles operated, 135. The earnings for March are estimated at $50,000. President Nickerson will soon call for a No. 3 subscription from No. 1 Mexican Central stockholders for about $5,000,000."

THE REPORT ON PACIFIC ROADS.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The report on the condition of the Pacific Railroads called for by the House Judiciary Committee is being prepared at the General Land Office as rapidly as possible with the limited clerical force available. It is probable that it will be ready for the Secretary's consideration within a week or ten days. The report will be complete in every respect, giving the exact status of every land grant road, and will probably be confined to a simple statement of facts unaccompanied by recommendations.

MIDNIGHT WEATHER REPORT.

GOVERNMENT INDICATIONS.

Synopsis for the past 24 hours.

WASHINGTON, March 23, 1 a. m.—The barometer is lowest northeast of New-England and highest near Cairo. Clear weather prevails in all districts, except New-England, where light snow is reported. Northwest winds continue on the Atlantic coast, and east to south winds in the Southwest and Northwest; the winds have shifted to southerly and westerly in the Lake region. The temperature has fallen about 10° in the Southern States east of the Mississippi, and in the Middle States, and risen slowly in the Northwest, Upper Lake region, and thence southwestward to Texas.

Indications for To-day.

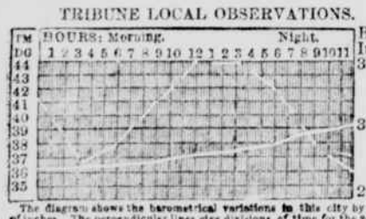
For New-England, light snow followed by clearing weather, stationary or a slight fall in temperature, northwest to southwest winds and higher barometer.

For the Middle Atlantic States, fair weather, slowly rising temperature, westerly to southerly winds, rising followed by falling barometer.

Indications for to-morrow.

Clearing and slightly colder weather is indicated for New-England on Thursday, and slightly warmer fair weather on Friday.

TRIBUNE LOCAL OBSERVATIONS.



The diagram shows the barometrical variations in this city by tenths of inches. The perpendicular lines give divisions of time for the 24 hours preceding midnight. The irregular white line represents the oscillations by the mercury during those hours. The broken or dotted line represents the variations in temperature, as indicated by the thermometer at Hadnut's Pharmacy, 218 Broadway.

TRIBUNE OFFICE, March 23, 1 a. m.—The movement in the barometer yesterday was steadily upward. Cloudy weather with light rain and snow was followed during the second quarter by partly cloudy weather, with a flurry of snow after noon, and a few drops of rain after 6 p. m. The temperature ranged between 36° and 44°, the average (40°) being 2¾° higher than on the corresponding day last year and the same as yesterday.

Cooler and fair or clear weather may be expected to-day in this city and vicinity.

KIDNAPPERS ARRESTED.

Two men were arrested last evening in the Fifth Precinct in Brooklyn, with a child in their possession which Bridget Moran alleges was kidnapped yesterday afternoon. Her story is that she went from her home, No. 29 Greenwich-st., this city, to No. 40 Hopkins-st., Brooklyn, to seek a situation. She was accompanied from an intelligence office in this city by two men, with whom she left her child, three years old, while she went in the house. When she came out she found that they had gone away with the child. This occurred in the afternoon. At 10 p. m. she went to the police station in Flushing-ave., Brooklyn, and reported that the child was kidnapped. A general alarm was sent out and the men were found soon afterward.

A PHENOMENON IN PASSAIC.

PIECES OF GLASS EMERGING FROM A BOY.

A STORY THAT IS LOOKED UPON WITH SUSPICION BY DOCTORS—THE EVIDENCE IN FAVOR OF WHAT THE BOY SAYS.

There are seventy bits of broken glass and a bright handsome boy of thirteen in E. K. Rose's house in Paulison-ave., Passaic. Taken separately neither is remarkable, but according to the statements of trustworthy persons the glass and the boy have lately been mixed up in a bewildering complication. Half a dozen persons of unquestioned standing offer the evidence of their own eyes as proof that these bits of glass emerged from the boy's arm and foot, after a long and leisurely journey beneath his cuticle. On the other hand two "regular" physicians of the place swear by the beard of Galen that the boy lied. They firmly refuse to take any stock in trunk or branch lines within the human frame for conveying a freight of broken glass from the sole of the right foot to the instep of the left and to the wrist of the right arm. But while the physicians argue a priori the other witnesses respond, "We saw it." No theory has yet been advanced that the boy possesses inherited tendencies for becoming the pathway of migratory glass, nor is it held that New-Jersey glass has a peculiar power of motion residing within itself which enables it to wiggle and burrow its way through corporeal tissues. The name of the perambulating human glass factory is Lewis Rose. He has grown to view the different portions of his anatomy with lively interest and expectant curiosity.

"Mother, the Bible says we're dust, but I guess I'm made of glass," he recently remarked.

From the rate at which window glass of good quality has been lately turned out from his arm, he is led to fear lest a sheet of plate glass may suddenly disclose itself in his shoulder-blades, or a literal bay window rear itself upon his forehead. To hear the expressions "glassy eye" and "vitreous glare" fills him with a sense of personal insult. When he moves, it would naturally be with caution, lest by a sudden jar or blow he might be cracked and shattered to pieces.

The history of the young hero is an interesting one. Four years ago the coming summer he was at Franklin, N. J. There while running about barefooted near an old saw mill, the windows of which had been knocked out with stones, he stepped heavily on some broken glass. A deep, severe gash was cut in the sole of the right foot just beneath the large joint of the great toe. "I got to the house the best way I could," he says, "walking on my heels." There was no doctor, and a woman bathed the foot, applied the traditional remedy of cobwebs to stop the bleeding, and bandaged it without cleansing the wound or examining it for bits of glass. The cut was slow in healing. For some months the boy was unable to bear any weight upon that side of his foot, and his mother noticed that his right shoe was worn almost entirely on one side. Gradually the sense of pain and soreness in the foot subsided. A year and a half passed. In September, 1880, Mr. Rose brought his son home from the country, where he had been spending his vacation. Noticing that Lewis seemed to feel pain in his left foot, Mr. Rose asked the cause and the boy replied that he had cut his foot in climbing over a fence. On reaching his home, which was then in Paterson, he complained of a sharp pain in the inner side of the left instep. His shoe and stocking were removed, and in the stocking was found a piece of glass over half an inch long. The cut, which was serious enough to be painful, was poulticed. Suddenly Lewis screamed and complained of a sharp pain in his foot. His mother removed the poultice and found adhering to it a still larger piece of glass. The wound was then simply dressed with vaseline, and either left uncovered or a cloth laid lightly over it. Mrs. Rose sat beside her son and watched him carefully, and she states that she and other members of the family actually saw pieces of glass issue from the cut in Lewis's foot. Naturally alarmed, she sent for her family physician, but he was unable to come for some time, and on his arrival, after the glass has ceased appearing, he ridiculed the alleged occurrence as an impossibility. Twenty pieces in all, it is said, came out at this time. They were from one-eighth to three-quarters of an inch long, and varied similarly in width.

A few weeks after this Lewis suffered from a pain in his right side, which was attributed to pleurisy. Nothing else eventful happened until a week ago Monday. Then Lewis complained of pain in his right fore arm. On the outer side, just above the wrist joint, there had appeared a small red spot like an aggravated pimple. Mrs. Rose squeeze a drop of yellowish matter from this and put a bandage around it. This gave the boy annoyance from its tightness until it was loosened. He was then studying his lessons to be in readiness for morning school. All at once he screamed violently, grew pale and seemed in great agony. His mother went to his relief and taking off the bandage found there a piece of glass. Several others followed while the mother was watching him and at last a very large piece appeared, which appeared to cause the boy intense pain and to completely exhaust him. These pieces of glass, Mrs. Rose states, "popped out" through the opening originally made by pricking the pimple, which had naturally become enlarged. There was little or no bleeding and the pieces of glass were white and clean and, with two or three exceptions, unstained by blood. In the course of the day twenty bits of glass issued from the little hole in the boy's wrist. In the evening a physician called and probed the wound, but there were no more signs of glass and the physician was skeptical. On Tuesday morning the issue of glass was resumed. Mrs. Rose sent for the physician, but he delayed coming until Wednesday. During his stay no glass appeared, but it began to come out soon after his departure, and continued until 9 o'clock. Mrs. Rose sent for a neighbor, Mrs. Burns, who sat with the boy and (so she avers) actually saw glass issue from the wound. The last time that glass appeared was on Friday of last week, after which the wound rapidly healed. When Lewis was seen at his home by a TRIBUNE reporter yesterday, a minute red spot, which could hardly be dignified by the name of scar, was all that was left of the wound. He has been a healthful, bright boy, except latterly, when he has been troubled with what was thought to be malaria. Now he is rosy-cheeked and a picture of health. He talks freely and intelligently about his experience.

Mrs. Burns, a neighbor, said last night: "On Wednesday afternoon I went to Mrs. Rose's house at her request. No glass came from Lewis's arm for an hour, and I spoke of going away, when he said that he felt a pricking in his arm, which always preceded the issuing of the glass. I waited, and some did come out. Then I told him that I was going to have his arm bare and prove the thing. I removed the cloth from the hole in his arm, which was like that made by the tooth of a dog, drew up his sleeve, and held his arm with my hands. While doing this I distinctly saw a piece of glass issue from the little wound in his arm. After that I saw others. It's a shame for doctors to deny what the mother and half a dozen people saw with their own eyes. One doctor says it's 'psychology.' Now, about a year ago Lewis saw a mesmerist, and afterward he used to put other boys into a trance, or make them think they saw things and make them do what he told them. But he soon gave that up. And the glass came from his foot a year before he ever heard of mesmerism. Then the doctors say he is doing this to keep out of school, but, on the contrary, he is very fond of going to school. Even if he had had the opportunity for deceit, which is impossible in every case, he has always been so open and frank that one would not impute it to him."

Dr. N. C. Ricardo, a homœopathic physician who has looked into the case, said: "There is the direct testimony of the mother, father, an older brother and sister, Mrs. Burns and several neighbors to support the truth of this remarkable phenomenon. There was no poisoning from the glass because it was of good quality, and my only theory is that it worked its way along the body through the cellular tissue aided by muscular contraction. I examined the opening on Monday last. It was three-eighths of an inch wide and like a punctured wound. I also broke up some pieces of the glass and examined it. I certainly believe that the glass came from the boy's arm, as has been stated."

Dr. Van Riper, a "regular," and the proprietor of a village drug store, said; "I probed the wound on Monday night, last week and couldn't get a probe as big as my watch-key in. Then how are those big pieces of glass nearly an inch long and half an inch wide to come out? I believe the boy is shamming. The thing is an impossibility. Here he talks about pricking in his arm and pretends to feel these bits of glass galloping at the 2:40 rate down his arm. I think he inserted the smallest pieces in the wound and slipped the larger bits on his arm by some sleight of hand."

The edges of the pieces of glass seem blunted, so that the handful of fragments can be gathered up and pressed by the fingers without any danger of being cut.

DISCUSSING PROTECTION.

"The Downfall of Protection" was the subject of a lecture delivered last night in the Art Association Hall, in Brooklyn, by Henry J. Philpot, associate editor of *The Iowa State Leader*. Mr. Beecher presided, and in introducing the lecturer said: "The work of the Brooklyn Revenue Reform Club has been like a spark; it has caught and spread, and now from all over the country come requests for its documents. When knowledge spreads protection is doomed." Mr. Philpot was warmly received. He said that the Free Traders had not learned to handle their weapons very well yet, but nevertheless, they always got the decisions in their favor. In Iowa thousands of converts had been made to Free Trade doctrines. He was sure that Free Trade would come, and was surprised there were not more Free Traders in New-York. Protection would yet be laughed down as Greenbackism had been. Protection was bare-faced tyranny.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

PARLIAMENT AND COUNTY FRANCHISE.

LONDON, March 22.—In the debate in the House of Commons last evening on Mr. Arnold's motion declaring in favor of equalization of borough and county franchise, Mr. Goschen voted with the majority against adjournment, although Mr. Gladstone intimated that a division would be taken as indicative of the opinion of the House on the main question. The majority numbered 192 and the minority 137. The latter consisted of Conservatives and seventeen Irish members. Mr. Goschen has hitherto opposed county franchise. The debate was ultimately adjourned by consent. It is considered that the above division has settled the question that the regulation of county franchise is clearly within the mission of the present Parliament.

ARANZA AND MISTAKE BEATEN.

LONDON, March 22.—To-day, the third day of the Lincoln Spring Meeting, the race for the Lincolnshire Handicap, distance one mile, was won by Count F. de Lagrange's five-years-old chestnut horse Poulet. The second place was secured by Mr. W. S. Crawford's five-years-old chestnut horse Master Waller, and the third place by the same owner's five-years-old gray horse Buchanan. The betting just before the race was 40 to 1 against Poulet, 16 to 1 against Master Waller and 5 to 1 against Buchanan. Twenty-five horses ran, including P. Lorillard's four-years-old bay filly Arauza and five-years-old chestnut gelding Mistake.

SYMPATHIZING WITH NIHILISM.

LONDON, March 22.—An association styling itself the International Revolutionary League, consisting of foreign refugees in London, and professing to include an American delegate, held a meeting last evening. The recent commutation of sentences of Nihilists was referred to as merely the stratagem of a despot. A resolution was adopted deprecating MacLean's attempt upon the life of the Queen.

LONDON, March 23.—*The Daily News* says several members of Parliament have received letters signed "Vera Sassulich," inviting subscriptions in behalf of imprisoned Nihilists.

DYNAMITE FOUND ON A TURKISH SHIP.

ODESSA, March 22.—*The Gazette* reports that the customs authorities at Kertsch have arrested in the roadstead a vessel flying the Turkish flag. The captain of the vessel declared that he had a cargo of oranges, but large quantities of dynamite and gunpowder were discovered. The captain then stated that the dynamite and powder were shipped for a landed proprietor at Taganrog. The vessel was escorted to Taganrog by a Government steamer.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S BIRTHDAY.

BERLIN, March 22.—The city is gayly decorated to-day on account of the anniversary of the Emperor William's birthday. Thanksgiving services were held at the churches, which were numerously attended. The Emperor began receiving congratulations at 10 o'clock this morning, and he stood throughout the reception without manifesting a sign of fatigue. Great crowds of people cheered his Majesty upon his appearance on the balcony.

Emperor William, replying to a deputation of the Conservative Central Committee, yesterday, who presented an address expressing devotion to his Majesty, said that the times were serious. Considering that the Czar a year ago had fallen a victim to party anarchy, who could now deem himself safe! The Emperor said he had learned with pleasure that the country largely approved his recent message.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 22.—Early this morning the Czar telegraphed a congratulatory message to Emperor William, expressing the hope that his life, which was so necessary to the peace of Europe and the maintenance of friendly relations between Russia and Germany, might be long preserved. A State dinner was given this evening in the Gatschina Palace, to which all the members of the German Embassy, M. de Giers, of the Foreign Office and all the Knights of the German Order of the Red Eagle were invited. The Czar toasted Emperor William.

VIENNA, March 22.—A banquet was given at the Palace to-night to celebrate the birthday of Emperor William of Germany. Emperor Francis Joseph toasted Emperor William.

THE GREAT FIRE AT EMOD.

LONDON, March 22.—A dispatch to *The Standard* from Vienna states that the whole of Emod was destroyed by the fire, and that all the inhabitants are compelled to camp out in the fields.

GENERAL SKOBELEFF TOASTS ENGLAND.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 22.—General Skobeleff, speaking at a military banquet in his honor last night, toasted the British Nation and referred warmly to the friendly relations between England and Russia.

FOREIGN NOTES.

LONDON, Wednesday, March 22, 1882.

Marshal Bazaine is bringing out his history of the siege and capitulation of Metz.

A dispatch from Berlin to *The News* states that Provost Herzog has been nominated as Archbishop of Breslau.

Letters from Moscow state that the 800 persons expelled from that place some time ago for not having passports were Jews.

The Oxford University boat crew has arrived at Putney to practise on the Thames for the approaching race with the Cambridge crew.

The elephant Jumbo has been confined in the traveling box constructed for him, and he will be removed to the steamship docks for shipment to New-York.

Prince Bismarck, conversing with several members of the Prussian Diet, stated that he was prepared for the rejection of the Tobacco Monopoly bill by the Reichstag.

Outside brokers in Paris declare they will not negotiate the shares of the new bank which is to take the place of the Union Generale, and the official brokers say they will not grant them a settlement.

PARIS, March 22.—General Francois Victor Adolphe de Chanal, the distinguished French army officer is dead.

CITY OF MEXICO, March 22.—The State of Mechoacan some time ago demanded the cancellation of its contract with the National Construction Company, for the building of a railroad between Morelia and Paracuaro. The company appealed to the Federal Court of Mechoacan, and the Governor now offers to arrange the matter amicably.

THE FLOODED DISTRICTS.

DESTITUTION AMONG THE SUFFERERS.

ST. LOUIS, March 22.—*The Globe-Democrat's* correspondent on the Government relief steamer Anita in the Sunflower River and some of its tributaries, gives a graphic description of the scenes along their banks among the poor people who for many days have been camping on dry spots of ground or cooped up in lofts of houses or huddled together on roofs. Many of them were suffering from hunger and all were utterly destitute, having lost everything they possessed. Up to Sunday night the Anita had taken to what are known as the Harris Mounds nearly 1,000 persons, mostly negroes. They are camped in the open air, but they will be supplied with food until they can take care of themselves.

General Beckwith received a dispatch to-day from Captain Loud, dated Vicksburg. He has just returned from an inspection tour in East Carroll and Madison Parishes, Louisiana. He found 3,000 destitute persons in East Carroll and 2,000 in Madison. A dispatch from Captain Lee, dated on board the steamer Anita, in the Sunflower River, March 19, says: "Since leaving Vicksburg we have been in lakes, creeks and over plantations, receiving and relieving people. Yawls are now out taking destitute persons from house-tops and gin-lofts. By dark to-day we will have over 200 persons on some large mounds one mile below here, and will give them one week's rations. All of them need tents for shelter. The flood is six to eight feet deep over the entire country and is rising seven inches per day. A large supply of tents and rations should be sent."

VICKSBURG, March 22.—Captain Carroll received a telegram this morning from A. W. Crandall, Tallulah, La., asking that a boat be sent to his assistance at once, as the situation was critical. In response, Captain Carroll sent the steamer Sallie Carney, with two barges in tow. She will take on rations at Delta and go up the Roundaway Bayou to Tallulah. H. Goodrich, of Goodrich Landing, has telegraphed Governor McEnery for 2,000 rations. J. B. Jonnson, assistant-engineer of the Commission, has orders to make a thorough examination of all the levees, and render a detailed report of their breaks, etc. Governor Lowry is here looking after the wants of the sufferers, and he has given the distribution of rations to Thomas Mount, secretary of the Cotton Exchange. Captain J. S. Loud has arrived on the steamer Commonwealth. He has been detailed by the Secretary of War to look after the condition of the people, and report the amount of rations needed and the probable length of time the Government will be required to aid the people. He says that at Lake Providence there are about 1,500 persons, and from the Arkansas line to the southern line of East Carroll Parish there are not less than 3,000 white and black people who will require rations for the next thirty days, and that in Madison Parish there are at least 2,000 persons who will have to be assisted for the same period.

MORE LEVEES BREAKING.

NEW-ORLEANS, March 22.—The water from the Landry crevasse is reported to be encroaching on the plantations in St. James Parish. Many persons believe that this crevasse cannot now be closed. The work of closing the Live Oak Grove crevasse was advancing favorably at last accounts, and the crevasse by this time has probably been closed. Breaks were reported yesterday at Hog Point and in the Raccourci levee, in Point Coupee Parish. This last break was not in the main Raccourci levee, which is one of the largest in the State, but was on an old channel of the river, known as Raccourci Bend. The Airlie levee, in which three breaks were reported yesterday from Vicksburg, was a new one in East Carroll Parish and was still in the hands of the contractor, the State not having received it because it was not finished according to the specifications. The Cotton Exchange, Produce Exchange, Board of Trade and Board of Brokers have appointed relief committees by invitation. Contributions will be solicited throughout the city.

VICKSBURG, March 22.—The river is falling at this point, and the waters also of the Yazoo, Sunflower and Tallahatchie Rivers are on the decline. At Chotard, nearly opposite the Alsatia crevasse, the water fell about eighteen inches.

DISTRIBUTING THE RATIONS.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The Secretary of War has ordered 300,000 rations to be issued at New-Orleans for the benefit of Louisiana; 200,000 at Memphis, Tenn., for the State of Mississippi; 50,000 at Helena, for Arkansas, and 10,000 each at Charleston, New-Madrid and Gayoso, for the State of Arkansas. These are the first rations issued to the overflowed districts under the last appropriation of $150,000.

NEW-ORLEANS, March 22.—The steamer John Wilson took 5,000 rations to Atchafalaya to-day. Rations have been issued for 22,000 persons for fifteen days, and the stock will soon be exhausted. The Commissioners have applications for rations for 40,000 persons. This number cannot be supplied unless additional aid is received. Provisions will be shipped daily by outcoing steamers until all are supplied or the stock exhausted. General York, of Concordia Parish, was commissioned by Governor McEnery to supervise the delivery of rations and forage.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC DISASTER.

EIGHT PERSONS KILLED AND MANY INJURED.

BISMARCK, D. T., March 22.—A dispatch from Mandan to *The Tribune* gives the following details of the railroad disaster: The scene of the accident is about nineteen miles west of Bismarck, at what is known as Soapstone Cut, Sweet Briar Creek, and two miles east of Sweet Briar station. About 7:30 last evening a snow-plough, work and boarding train and a passenger train left Sweet Briar in the order named. The snow was low, and they passed safely over the Ten Bent bridge, which spans the Sweet Briar Creek, except the work train. This was composed of flat-cars next to the engine, followed by two sleeping cars for thirty men, dining, kitchen and store-cars. The train was going at the rate of ten to fifteen miles an hour when the crash came, and eight persons were killed. A wheel on the head truck of a flat car broke and the whole truck jumped the track. The first sleeping car was immediately thrown into the river, thirty feet below, striking on its side. This was followed by the second sleeping car, which toppled over and finally assumed a position similar to that of the first. The dining car fell next, crashing into the others. After this the kitchen car fell, which remained upright against the dining car. The office and store car only partially left the track.

There were about fifty men on the train at the time of the accident. In sleeper No. 1 there were about twenty-four men, some of whom were sleeping while others were smoking and reading and playing cards. As soon as the car overturned the bedding caught fire. Some of the men in the car were roasted almost beyond recognition. The only deaths were among those in this car. It is supposed that seven of the victims were killed instantly and before being burned, as the voice of only one man crying "help" was heard. He was lying with his feet to the flames and was held fast by broken pieces of timber. His comrades could do nothing to save him and were obliged to see him gradually roast to death. Scattered here and there among the burned blankets, valises, clothing, broken car wheels and iron rods were the charred remains of the victims. Only two of the twenty-two injured were not seriously hurt. The names of the killed, as recognized by their friends, are as follows:

OLE JOHNSON—Found with one leg partially burned to ashes, head smashed and arms over his head as if he had suffered intense agony. He had just sent for his family in Norway to join him at Bismarck.

THOMAS WILSON—Was found about ten feet from Johnson a charred mass.

WILLIAM WATSON—Was lying with one arm over his head and one hand completely burned off.

J. MCCORMICK—Was found in a roll of blankets. He was probably first smothered and then burned.

THOMAS GRADY—Was found with his head burned nearly off. A charred pocket-book was found beside him, containing some time checks and a considerable sum of money.

George Moser, James O'Brien and William McAndrews were found in similar positions seriously injured. George Miller, an American, without relatives or friends, had an arm broken, and was badly cut about the head. T. O. Berry's shoulder was dislocated and he was cut about the face. The following named received but slight injuries and are now being taken care of by the Northern Pacific officials at Mandan: M. Harrison, Peter Lombard, A. Gunstrom, James Kennedy, Peter Mann, John Pereellis, Thomas Connors, Nels Gunstrom, Fred. Mosher, Frederick Harris, Charles Corwin, Charles Lanagan, William Brennan, Charles Sage, John Neary and Joe Smith. Joseph Donegan, F. O. Berry, Henry Mann, J. W. Babcock and Thomas McQuinn.

Messrs. Simmons and Duncan, who ran the boarding train for the Northern Pacific Railroad, had over $700 in the rear car, which was saved. Thomas O'Connor, engineer of the train, says the wreck caught fire almost instantly. The Coroner's jury has found that the disaster was accidental, and the train men and the Northern Pacific officials are held guiltless.

The dead were wrapped in blankets and brought to Mandan this afternoon, where they were interred. The wreck is being rapidly cleared away, and Superintendent Taylor says the running of trains will be resumed on time to-day. The ladies of Mandan are taking an active part in attending to the wants of the injured, who are mostly foreigners, having no friends in this section.

THE XIITH DISTRICT CONTROVERSY.

The action of the majority of the Republican Central Committee on Tuesday evening in unseating the Southworth delegation from the XIIth District and awarding seats to the delegation headed by Victor Heimburger was the occasion of a good deal of criticism yesterday on the part of members of the party. At the supplementary primary ordered by the Republican Central Committee the Southworth ticket received 151 votes to 82 for that headed by Heimburger. The election was supervised by Police Justice Solon B. Smith and Bernard Biglin. The only real charge made by the contestants was that the names of many Republicans had been dropped from the roll.

"The action of the Central Committee in the case of the XVth District, and now in that of the XIIth, shows that it can at will override the wishes of the voters in any of the districts in the city," said a prominent Republican. Some of the oldest and most influential Republicans in the Central Committee protested against seating the minority delegation and declared that the only fair way was to have a new enrolment in the XIIth District. But their wishes were disregarded and the minority delegation was seated."

The opponents of Mr. Southworth declared that his rejection was a very simple matter when understood. "The plain facts in the case are these," said a Republican member of the City Government: "Southworth amounted to nothing until Jacob M. Patterson, jr., picked him up and helped him along by securing him a $2,000 position. And Southworth repaid this service by turning on his benefactor. The Republican Senatorial Convention of the VIth District decided to indorse Thomas F. Grady, the Tammany candidate, in return for aid extended in other directions. Southworth refused to abide by the action of the Convention and his district supported Jacob Seebacher, the County Democracy candidate. It is alleged that improper considerations influenced this action of Southworth. This accounts for the very large vote by which the Southworth delegation was unseated. Whatever rivalry there may be between the adherents of President Arthur and Governor Cornell found no expression in this instance. Southworth did not 'pull straight' and he was thrown overboard. That is all there is to it."

SELLING THE FANNING PICTURES.

A third of Mr. William H. Fanning's collection of 300 water-colors was sold at auction last night at the gallery of Thomas E. Kirby & Co., Nos. 845 and 847 Broadway. These examples of the French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, Swedish, Danish, Portugese and English schools, described in the catalogue as "an extraordinary collection," were mentioned in last Monday's TRIBUNE. The attendance was good, the bidding fairly spirited and the total sales for the evening amounted in round numbers, to $4,000. Some of the works sold for little more than the value of the frames, the frame being the principal consideration. The pictures which sold for $100, and upwards, were "Testing the Sword," by Simonetti, $130; "William of Orange, receiving a dispatch from the Duke of Alva," by Ten Kate, $125; "The Milkmaid," by Mauve, $100; a fruit and flower piece by Rivoire, of Paris, $102 50; an Italian May Fair, by De Grossi, of Genoa, $240; "The Snake Charmer," a large piece with picturesque grouping and bright coloring, by Dondiego, of Tangiers, $210; a flower piece by Rivoire, $100; "The Pacha's Favorite," a nightmare of color and a frenzy of composition, by Rivas, of Tangiers, $145; "In the Maze," a young woman dressed in white, carrying a parasol of so brilliant a hue as to seem like a burst of flame against the vivid green background, by Fiossi, of Rome, $210; "In the Park," by Stracchi, of Rome, $110; an Italian farm scene, by Giovanni, of Rome, $132 50. The sale will be continued to-night at 8 o'clock.

BROOKLYN DEMOCRATS REORGANIZING.

The committee of 150 Democrats of Kings County, selected by Messrs. Bergen, Marshall and Fox, to reorganize the party and consolidate the regular, or McLaughlin, wing and the independent, or Kinsella, wing, met for the first time last evening at Sawyer's Hall, at Jay and Fulton-sts., Brooklyn. Mr. Kinsella was prominent in the proceedings, but Mr. McLaughlin did not come to the front. The officers elected were: Robert Black, president; S. Y. McNair and Henry Hauselman, vice-presidents; W. M. Durrie and H. S. Bellows, secretaries, and C. Sims, jr., treasurer. A long discussion took place over a series of resolutions, offered by Mr. Kinsella, providing for the guidance of the committee in conducting the primary elections, and with some changes they were finally adopted. A resolution to shut off from membership in the new committee all of the 150, also offered by Mr. Kinsella, was laid on the table.

THE CONTINENTAL LIFE.

ALBANY, March 22.—Judge Westbrook has filed an order denying the motion to revalue polices of the Continental Life Insurance Company, and ordering the receiver to turn the building of the company and all other property in his hands into cash and pay a dividend of 8 per cent.

THE FIRE RECORD.

AN OPERA HOUSE BURNED.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., March 22.—Compton's Opera House and a dwelling adjoining, at Middleport, were destroyed by fire about 12 o'clock last night. The loss on the Opera House is $40,000; partially insured.

HEAVY LOSS IN MILWAUKEE.

MILWAUKEE, March 22.—Fire at Ripon, Wis., this morning, destroyed property facing on the public square to the amount of $200,000.

AT VARIOUS PLACES.

ROCHESTER, March 21.—A fire this morning destroyed the Curtis Manufacturing Company's shops in Albion. The loss is estimated at $100,000. Seventy-five men are thrown out of employment. The storage building, containing seventy-five mowers, was saved. The insurance is $45,000. The Mansion House adjoining was also destroyed. Loss $1,000; insurance $800.

NORWICH, Conn., March 21.—The house, barns and outbuildings, and a tenement house belonging to S. J. P. Ladd, of Lisbon, were burned early this morning. All his hay and farming tools were lost. The loss is estimated at $10,000, which is partly covered by insurance.

A DINNER AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The dinner given this evening at the White House included thirty-five guests. The State dining room was beautifully decorated with flowers, pots of pinks, azaleas, ferns, and palms, filling the windows and niches as on the evening of the diplomatic dinner. The President led the way from the east room with Mrs. Grant. They were followed by Speaker Keifer and Mrs. Frelinghuysen, Admiral Porter and Mrs. McKeever, John Davis and Miss Porter, Mr. Phillips and Miss Jaffrey, Mr. Robeson and Mrs. Wadsworth, Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Bancroft Davis, Senator Logan and Mrs. Jones, George Bancroft and Mrs. Logan, General Grant and Mrs. Keifer, Hamilton Fish and Mrs. Cameron, Mr. Kasson and Miss Lucy Frelinghuysen, General Beale and Miss Cutts, General McKeever and Miss Beale, Bancroft Davis and Mrs. Beale, Senator Jones, of Nevada, and Mrs. John Davis, Senator Anthony and Mrs. Robeson, Secretary Frelinghuysen and Mrs. Fish.

Mrs. Frelinghuysen wore black satin, with jet point lace and hair ornamented with white feathers. Mrs. Keifer's toilet was heliotrope satin and brocade of the same shade. Mrs. Grant wore prune velvet with point lace and diamonds. Mrs. Logan's toilet was a court train of peacock blue velvet over silver blue brocade. Mrs. Don Cameron wore rose-tinted satin. Mrs. Fish wore black velvet. Miss Frelinghuysen wore white crepe embroidered with white silk. Mrs. Jones wore a court train of silver brocade over white satin trimmed with lace. Mrs. Beale wore pearl-gray satin. Miss Beale's toilet was white Spanish lace over white satin. Miss Porter wore pale rose-colored brocade.

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Frelinghuysen gave a dinner last evening to Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Fish, who are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft Davis. The guests at the dinner were the President, General and Mrs. Grant, Senator David Davis, Justice Bradley, Justice Gray, Commissioner and Mrs. Loring, Admiral and Mrs. Rodgers, Secretary Folger, Bancroft Davis, Mrs. Bizelew Lawrence, General and Mrs. Beale, and Mr. Kenny, Editor of *The Newark Advertiser*.

A WEDDING IN SIXTY-EIGHTH-ST.

Leo Speyer and Miss Sarah Lichtenstadter were married, last evening, by the Rev. Dr. Gotthell, in the house of Samuel Borg, the bride's brother-in-law, at No. 4 East Sixty-eighth-st. The parlors were adorned with banks of flowers, suspended floral bells and true-love knots. A floral bell hung over the bride and groom. Crash covered the floor, and dancing was indulged in during the reception after the ceremony. The orchestra was hidden behind a hedge of plants and palms. Pinard furnished refreshments. There were no ushers or bridesmaids and invitations were rest