business meetings for the election of officers for the ensuing year, and at 3 o'clock the general business meeting of the society was held at the National Theatre. General Horatio C. King, of Brooklyn, Secretary of the Society, called the meeting to order and presented General Humphreys, the President. The report of the Secretary was then adopted, after which General M. T. McMahon, Treasurer, submitted his report, which shows a balance on hand of $1,172. The President announced as the next business the election of officers for the ensuing year. The scene, however, which ensued, and the discussion which took place, recalled most vividly the closing hours of the XLVth Congress. Motions and amendments, calls of order, appeals to the Chair, which the Chair could not hear, followed one another in rapid succession. The best of feeling, however, appeared to prevail. Nominations for president having been declared to be in order, General Mann, of North Carolina, on behalf of the Sixth Corps, announced the name of "that grand old soldier, General John Newton." Major Joseph Steiner shouted at the top of his voice the nomination by the Fifth Corps of General U. S. Grant. Cheers and cries of "Grant," "Grant," "Grant," "Vote," "Newton," "Grant," for some minutes made it impossible for anyone to be heard. Then followed a running discussion as to General Grant's eligibility.

Finally General Humphreys said: "If I remember rightly, General Grant at one time was intimately associated with the Army of the Potomac, near the close of the war. I think he is clearly eligible, if you choose to elect him."

NAMES OF BOTH NOMINEES WITHDRAWN.

This was received with shouts of laughter and applause from all quarters, and it was moved to proceed to ballot. General Mann then arose and stated that after consultation with several of his associates of the Sixth Corps, as there seemed to be a general desire to elect General Grant, he would withdraw the name of General Newton.

This was the signal for renewed commotion, accompanied by cries of "Good," and "Don't withdraw," which was heightened when General Barnum, of Connecticut, in ringing tones, announced that he would withdraw the name of General Grant.

A voice—"What right have you to withdraw him?"

General Barnum: "As the presiding officer of the Fifth Corps at their meeting to-day, and because I know personally that General Grant, though he was thought not unworthy to command us at Appomattox, does not desire the onerous duty in these piping times of peace and would not permit his name to be the subject of controversy. If there is a single objection, I withdraw his name."

Finally the nominations of Generals Grant and Newton were renewed and the balloting proceeded. Pending the collection of the ballots a resolution was presented and read that Major Maginnis, the orator of the day, and George Alfred Towsend, the poet, be elected honorary members of the society.

Major Maginnis raised a laugh upon the author of the resolution by announcing from the stage that he had been a member since the first battle of Bull Run. The resolution as to Mr. Townsend was adopted.

The president announced the appointment of Generals Lock, Ruggles and Tuttle, Colonel Truesdell and Captain Burritt as a committee to report to the meeting upon the place for holding the next reunion, and called for nominations. Saratoga, New-York City, Portland, Harrisburg, Richmond, Baltimore, Denver, Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago were named, and the committee retired to select three names of places to be submitted to the Society for a choice.

The secretary announced the election of the following named gentlemen at the several corps meetings this afternoon to represent them as vice-presidents of the society: First Corps, Colonel W. W. Dudley; Second Corps, General S. S. Carroll; Third Corps, Colonel Clayton McMichael; Fourth Corps, General D. H. Davis; Fifth Corps, General R. B. Ayres; Sixth Corps, General Adam E. King; Ninth Corps, General Edward Jardine; Eleventh Corps, General Emil Frye; Twelfth Corps, General James L. Selfridge; Nineteenth, General William H. Everett; Staff Corps, General George D. Ruggles; Cavalry, General John B. McIntosh; Artillery, Colonel H. I. Hunt; Signal Corps, Colonel B. F. Fisher.

GENERAL NEWTON ELECTED PRESIDENT.

The result of the balloting for president was then announced as follows: General Newton, 155; General Grant, 117; scattering, 7. General Newton's election was made unanimous. It was then moved and carried without dissent that the secretary be authorized to cast one ballot to represent the unanimous vote of the society for the re-election of the remaining officers as follows: Treasurer, General M. T. McMahon; secretary, General Horatio King; corresponding secretary, General George H. Sharpe.

The committee on the place for holding the next reunion then reported the names of three cities, viz.: Brooklyn, Portland, Me., and Harrisburg, from which a selection might be made. All three seemed to have numerous advocates, when General King smilingly intimated that it would give him a great addition of labor if Brooklyn should be chosen. "But," he added, "if you go there we will entertain you in the Academy of Music and dine you at Coney Island." This announcement produced an instantaneous effect and Brooklyn was selected by the society with one solitary dissenting vote in favor of Harrisburg.

This closed the business of the afternoon, and after music by the Marine Band the meeting at 5:15 adjourned till 8 o'clock.

THE EVENING MEETING.

The exercises of the society this evening at the National Theatre drew together an audience which filled the building in every part—an audience brilliant, distinguished, enthusiastic and sympathetic. Stage, auditorium and galleries were filled, the one with the commanders of the Army, the others with the surviving members of that army, their friends and the welcoming people of the city of Washington. The interior decorations of the theatre were brilliant, tasteful and appropriate for a gathering of veterans. The stage was occupied by the officers of the meeting, officers of the Army of the Potomac above the rank of brigadier-general, and invited guests of distinction. Among them were General Humphrey, General John Newton, Judge Edmonds, District Commissioner, who delivered the welcoming address to the society; Martin McGinnis, of Montana, the orator of the evening; Georgs Alfred Townsend, the poet; General Sherman and members of his staff, General Rosecrans, ex-Speaker Keifer, Commissioner Loring, Generals Wright, Ayres, Ordway, Clarke and McIntosh, Schofield, Slocum, Webb and Beaver, and Senator Ingalls, of Kansas, and Representatives Cox and McKinley. The Secretary of War and the Postmaster-General, with ladies, occupied one of the private boxes. General Humphrey, the retiring president, opened the exercises by introducing to the society and the audience Judge Edmonds, who appeared before them, he said, on behalf of the citizens of Washington, in whose name he welcomed the veterans to the city.

While Judge Edmonds was speaking General Sherman came on the stage from one of the wings. As he moved across to his seat in the front the veterans caught sight of him and interrupted the speech to give him a welcome with three ringing cheers and a tiger.

A POEM BY GEORGE ALFRED TOWNSEND.

At the conclusion of Judge Edmonds's address the Marine Band rendered "The Star Spangled Banner," and then the President introduced the poet, George Alfred Townsend, who with much feeling delivered the poem, the reading of which was frequently interrupted by the applause of the audience. The poem was in part as follows:

There is one too little mentioned when your proud reunions come,
And the thoughtful love of country dies upon the sounding drum;
Let me call him in your muster, let me wake him in your grief:
Captain by the Constitution, Abra'm Lincoln was your chief.

. . . . . .

Faint of faith, we looked behind us for a chief of higher tone,
While the voice that drowned the trumpets was the echo of our own.
Ever thus, my old companions! Genius has us by the hand,
Walking on the tempest with us, every crisis to command.
Like the bugle blown of evening by some homesick son of art,
Lincoln's words, unearthly, quiver in the universal heart;
Not an echo left of malice, scarce of triumph in the strain,
As when summer thunder murmurs in pathetic showers of rain.
Years forever consecrated, here he lived where duties be,
Never crying on the climate or the toil's monotony;
Here his darling boy he buried and the night in vigil wept,
Like his Lord within the garden, when the tired disciples slept.
How his call for men went ringing round the world a mighty bell,
And the faces of creation came the proud revolt to quell;
Standing in the last reaction on the rock of human rights,
Worn and mournful grew his features in the flash of battle lights.
Once, like Moses from the mountain, looked he on the realm he won,
When the slaves in burning Richmond knelt and thought him Washington,
Then an envious brave snatched him from the theatre of things,
To become a saint of nature in the pantheon of kings.
Faded are the golden chevrons, vanished is the pride of war;
Mild in Heaven his moral glory lingers like the morning star,
And the freeman's zone of cotton his white spirit seems to be;
And the insects in the harvest beat his army's reveille.
All around him spoiled or greedy, women vain and honor spent,
Still his faith in human nature lived without discouragement;
For his country, which could raise him, barefoot, to the monarch's height,
Could he mock her or his mother, though her name she could not write?
Deep the wells of humble childhood; cool the springs beside the hut;
Millions more as poor as Lincoln see the door he has not shut.
Not till wealth has made its canker every poor white's calm through,
Shall the great Republic wither or the infidel subdue.
Stand round your great commander! Lay aside your little feud!
Every Lincoln carries Freedom's car along a hundred years.
And when next the call for soldiers rolls along the golden bell,
Look to see a mightier column rise and march, prevail and dell.

AN ORATION BY MAJOR MAGINNIS.

Following the poet came the orator of the evening, Major Martin Maginnis, who received a warm greeting as he stepped to the front. He said in part:

Surely, comrades, as you again came down to the Potomac, and to your eyes again appeared the white vision of the Capitol, around which, phantom-like, have clustered the memories that have attended you through a long peace, amid the struggles of existence, in the fields of every-day endeavor, in the temples of gain, where trade worships at the altars of profit and speculation kneels to the divinity of dividends, surely the stones of twenty years were rolled away, and out of the sepulchre of each comrade's past came forth a young, an ardent a heroic spirit; a youth, who had laid down his scrome of life, abandoned his career, and with the spirit of a patriot, and the devotion of a martyr, offered himself to that country whose startled alls were echoing to the guns of Sumter, and whose first appeal and first command to the men of our generation, was: "Rally on Washington!"

The faces before me look from the hills of middle life down into the valley of declining years, and the heads are spangled with silver and dropped from the hour-glass of flying time. Are these the same who marched down the roads-paved avenue, straightened themselves as they passed the reviewing eyes of the majestic Scott, and cheered the kindly welcome of Abraham Lincoln? Who played at Congress in the Capitol and stood guard over the White House? The boys who looked out on the shining fields of glory, of which the world was made? For dreams of distinction came with thoughts of sacrifice, and death was forgotten in the hope of honor, and with these burned as pure a patriotism as ever warmed the heart of man.

Among the memories that revive in this reunion, there are no differences of creed or politics. We had none at the front but love of country. Shall we open the batteries of argument against the sophistries of secession, when would renew the very principles of all government, and dissolve great nations, founded in the necessities and hopes of humanity, by ingenious logic or quibbles of construction? Every passing year makes more dingy the thin gilding of that folly. Is it necessary to denounce a revolution against a government which never injured one of the discontented, or interfered, except to save his life, his liberty or his pursuit of happiness? The memory of slavery, and the arguments on which it was sustained, are trampled under foot by the men who fought for it. The North would have to raise a greater army to restore slavery than was required to put it down. The stars in their courses fight against slavery, and light on the eternal march of freedom. There is no need to defend the justice of that war which has given us a Union above the disturbances of threats and beyond the necessity of compromise, or sustain the wisdom which desired war that we might have perpetual peace, against the folly that clamored for peace that we might have perpetual war.

The greater portion of the address was devoted to a review of the achievements of the Army of the Potomac down to Appomattox. In conclusion the speaker said:

What had this victory cost? From May, 1861, to March, 1864, the losses of the Army of the Potomac were, in killed, 15,220; wounded, 65,850; captured, 31,378; in all 112,448. From May 1, 1864, to April 9, 1865, killed, 12,500; wounded, 69,500; captured or missing, 28,000; aggregate, 110,000. From the beginning to the close of the war, killed, 27,720; wounded, 155,652; captured or missing, 59,378. A grand aggregate of 242,750. Adding those who died of gun-shot wounds the number of men who lost their lives in action in the Army of the Potomac was 48,902, probably one-half of all who died from wounds on the field of battle in all the armies of the United States. . . . But another and a greater martyr was to fall beside the Potomac. In the midst of all our rejoicings our great friend, our President, was stricken down; the Commander-in-Chief of our veteran armies, the greatest in the world; the Grand Admiral of all the navies that guarded our coasts or ranged the distant seas. All the serried battalions, which would have laid down their lives, could not save him, or frigate or ironclad carry him over the river to whose brink we all must come. Like the nimbus of his heroes—whose nobler war face looked up from the sod—the man whose name shines on the rock of immortality, above the waves of oblivion and the tides of time; the great central figure of the war, stepped down from his high place into the cold waters of death and disappeared on the shadowy shores of the western sea.

But, comrades, the result is worth it all. Who could have foreseen that problems, involving not only the Government, but society itself, could have been so soon and satisfactorily settled? Romance and poetry will embellish and the ivy of time make picturesque the heroism of defeat; but every passing year will make more plain the justice of the cause of Battles, lost the lost cause was justly lost. . . . .

To this city, which they had met, the comrades of many years were called, that they might part. You crossed the Potomac, and turning your backs upon its banks, marched in review up the avenue. That river of color, wave after wave, passed the White House and moved by the Capitol, to break into part and return to the uttermost parts of the union, out of all those whose talisman standards floated on the air and whose triumphal music filled the heart with joy. How few were of the faces that four years before had marched down that avenue the other way; had marched down to the battlefield, the hospital, the grave. How much vaster the shadowy hosts of the dead, whose pale memories moved with the column and kept time to the march. From scores of fields, consecrated by their deaths, forever sacred to their memories, they could not come, unless it shall be to meet us under the walls of a city more historic than Richmond, more resplendent than Washington, in the last reunion of the Army of the Potomac.

A SPEECH BY GENERAL SHERMAN.

There were loud calls for General Sherman when Major Maginnis concluded. The veteran commander responded. He pleasantly alluded to the old saying of the Army of the Potomac, that "they didn't want any bummers," and said, "I was the person to whom you referred." A laughing chorus of denials came from the veterans. The General proceeded to point out that the memories of the war were common to all the soldiers of the war, to whatever army they belonged. They followed one flag, he said, and fought in one cause, and that cause the Union of the country and the preservation of a Government transmitted to them by honest forefathers. He thought it was well for the survivors of the war to gather together from time to time to compare notes, for they were reminded daily and weekly that they were growing older, and it was wise to settle now the little differences that existed between them during the war. He was willing, he said, to concede to the Army of the Potomac all that the orator who had preceded him had claimed for it, but he thought the laurels of the war should be shared by all who fought it.

As General Sherman retired the band played "Marching Through Georgia," the members of the society and the guests on the stage rising and joining enthusiastically in the chorus.

There were then calls for Rosecrans, Schofield and Slocum. The last responded and in a brief speech contrasted the Washington of twenty-two years ago with the Washington of to-day; the reception the Army of the Potomac met with when it first arrived here and the welcome it now received.

Generals Webb and Beaver and ex-Speaker Keifer were in turn called upon, and spoke briefly. Telegrams of regret at inability to be present from Generals Hancock and Sheridan were read and the exercises closed with "Dixie" and "Yankee Doodle" by the band.

THE TWO TICKETS AT THE UNION CLUB.

Though there are two opposition tickets posted at the Union Club in accordance with the by-law making ten day's notice before the election obligatory it is doubtful whether, after all, there will be a contest at the meeting on May 23. It seems as if those members who have taken it upon themselves to post their friends' names have been slightly premature in taking this action without, in some instances at least, finding out whether those friends were inclined to run. Mr. Cadwalader, for instance, is said to be much annoyed at the use which has been made of his name, and as stated in THE TRIBUNE, has definitely declared that he will not take any part in a contested election. He deplores exceedingly the introduction of so much personal feeling into club matters and will not consent to be in any way mixed up in it. Edwards Pierrepont, whose name heads another ticket, will only consent to run if he can be assured that harmony will thereby be insured. He has not yet made up his mind but states that he will come to a conclusion on the subject to-day. Edward Cooper and John G. Townsend, whose names are on the ticket with Mr. Cadwalader's will be guided by the general feeling of the club as to whether they run or not.

It is now stated that the report of Mr. Constable's resignation of the presidency arose from the fact that he had hinted that his state of health rendered his duties irksome and he would have liked to resign but not his friends made a strong outcry and persuaded him to retain his position. No question of club politics influenced him in any way.

THE WRECK OF THE GRAYLING RAISED.

The wreckers succeeded yesterday in raising the wreck of the yacht Grayling from the bed of the lower bay, where it has been since the capsizing on Sunday afternoon. It was found that serious damage had been inflicted to the yacht, evidently by an ocean steamship which had fouled and completely destroyed the masts and rigging. The foremast was broken off above the crossirce, and what remained of the mainmast was a splintered stump, less than half its former length. The rigging was a mass of entangled, broken remnants. The hull is reported to be uninjured. The wreckers intend to beach and pump her out to-day, and then tow her to New-York. She now lies within a mile of Fort Lafayette, close to the Long Island shore.

A MAN THROWS HIMSELF UNDER A TRAIN.

A man about thirty years old, with dark hair and mustache, and dressed in a suit of dark clothing, was struck and killed by the engine of the 2:05 p. m. train from Flushing, on the North Shore Railroad, near Schwalenberg's crossing, at Dutch Kills, yesterday. His body was terribly mangled, the top of his head just above the eyes, and one leg and one arm being cut off, and the clothing completely torn from his body. The engineer of the train states that when he first saw the man he was walking on the eastbound track, and that when the engineer tried to sound his whistle he threw himself in front of it. The remains were removed to the Morgue at Long Island City. Notoriety was found in the clothing of the deceased man by which he could be identified.

HOW MRS. STODDARD WAS KILLED.

HER HUSBAND'S STATEMENT TO THE CORONER'S JURY—THE FUNERAL SERVICES.

The funeral of Mrs. Maria C. Stoddard, wife of the Rev. Dr. Edward L. Stoddard, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, in Summit-ave., Jersey City, took place yesterday afternoon. The church was filled to the aisles. The chancel was draped in mourning, and there was an elaborate display of floral designs. The funeral procession was led by several Episcopal clergymen. The Rev. Dr. Eccleston conducted the funeral services. There was no address, and after the services the remains were carried out of the church. The burial will take place in Worcester, Mass., to-day.

The inquest in the case was begun yesterday morning by Coroner Hughes in Dr. Stoddard's library. Dr. Stoddard was the first witness called. He is a man of slender build, has sharp features and thin lips, and is of medium height. The entire expression of his face is pleasing, and although evidently bowed down with grief, he was cool and collected, and gave his testimony with great deliberation. He said:

On Monday, May 14, my wife and I were cleaning the closets in the room on the second floor. I was removing my clothing from the drawers; the pistol and a box of cartridges were in the lower drawer; they had been on the upper shelf of the closet and I had taken the pistol down thinking I might clean it, as it had not been cleaned for fifteen years. I thought of cleaning it as we had been talking of shooting at a mark. I concluded to put the pistol on an upper shelf out of the way and to enable me to reach that shelf I had to pull out one of the drawers to stand on. I think I pulled out the second or middle drawer and stepped upon it. I had put the cartridges up and was in the act of putting up the pistol when my foot slipped from the drawer. Mrs. Stoddard was kneeling on the floor reaching for something under the sink. In falling or rising, I hardly know which, the pistol exploded and my wife fell. That is all I know about it.

In answer to the Coroner the witness said:

We were married in 1872 and our domestic relations were always of the most pleasant character. Another relations existed between her family and myself. I don't know how the pistol exploded. We can all suppose, I can suppose, but I don't know. My foot slipped and I fell forward as you fall in going up stairs if your feet are not firmly planted.

The witness having repeated that his wife was almost directly under him when the accident occurred, was asked by a juror how he could have pulled the drawer out and stood on it if she was in that position. He hesitated for a moment, and then with a firm hand drew a diagram on a piece of paper and it was examined to the jury to illustrate the relative positions he and his wife occupied. Mrs. Elizabeth Sterling and Mary Stoddard, a maiden sister of Dr. Stoddard, were examined, but their testimony was not important. Miss Van Rapp was reported as being too ill to undergo an examination, and the inquest was adjourned until next Monday evening.

FIREMAN ROONEY'S BRAVE DEED.

The fire which destroyed the old *World* building on January 31, 1882, and the heroism displayed there were vividly recalled yesterday in the public presentation on the Union Square plaza of the Bennett medal for 1882 to Fireman John L. Rooney, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 10. Rooney, it will be remembered, rescued Miss Ida Small from a fourth-story window of the burning building to which he climbed on a ladder held on the shoulders of his comrades. The ceremonies yesterday were made more impressive by a parade of the brigade, followed by a review by the Mayor. Forming in Irving place, the brigade marched through some of the principal streets, and returning, formed on the plaza, with the former recipients of medals in front and the engines on the left. Second Assistant Chief of Department Hugh Bonner was in command. The First Battalion, consisting of engine companies Nos. 1, 3, 14 and 33, and hook and ladder No. 3, was commanded by Chief of Battalion William Rowe, and the second, consisting of engines Nos. 15, 21, 31 and 44, and hook and ladder No. 10, by Chief of Battalion Thomas Gooderson. The 22d Regiment Band, led by P. S. Gilmore, played at intervals.

The presentation was made in the presence of a very large crowd of people. When the brigade had been formed Mayor Edson descended from the plaza and met Rooney, who had been ordered to advance from the ranks. In the course of his remarks the Mayor said:

That you may know the circumstances under which the decoration which we now propose to bestow was won I would recall to your remembrance the memorable fire that so suddenly destroyed the Potter building on the morning of January 31, 1882, in which several persons lost their lives. One of these, employed in the fourth story, a young woman, was rescued from the coping on which she was standing outside the window, and where, owing to the rush of the flames, she could hardly stand for a moment longer, by the bravery of a member of Hook and Ladder Company No. 10. Outstanding at the fire, to quote the brief record of the event entered on the minutes of the Department, "Fireman John L. Rooney, of that company, mounted a ladder on the Beekman-st side, which being too short, was raised from the ground and held erect by his comrades, thus enabling him to reach Miss Ida Small and carry her to the street." Such is the simple narrative; and yet it marks the difference between a human life lost and a human life saved. None but a person of unusual nerve could at that height maintain his position on a ladder thus supported and at the same time rescue and carry to a place of safety another. (To Fireman Rooney.) And yet you, sir, were enabled to do this, and your example will be an encouragement and an incitement to many of your brave comrades.

On concluding his remarks the Mayor fastened the medal on Rooney's breast. The medal is of gold and is about the size of a silver dollar. The crowd gave cheers for Rooney, and the band played "See the Conquering Hero Comes" as Rooney returned to his place in the ranks. The brigade then passed in review before the Mayor, who afterward marched at the head of the column.

Seventeen officers and men of the brigade have received the Bennett medal. Of these four are dead, including Chief Nash and Foreman Dougherty of hook and ladder No. 1, who were killed on duty.

THE HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM.

The corner-stone of the new Hebrew Orphan Asylum at One-hundred-and-thirty-sixth-st and Tenth-ave. was laid yesterday in the presence of the prominent Israelites of the city. An hour before the ceremony a large crowd had gathered and the stand where the main building is to be erected, and the 7th Regiment Band played national airs. On the platform were Senators Joseph Koch, F. Miller, and T. J. Campbell, Coroner Levy, Judges Hall and Nehrbas, Emanuel B. Hart, Morris K. Jesup, Edward Lauterbach, Rev. Dr. Jacobs, ex-Judge Joachimsen, Meyer Stern, Controller Campbell, Jesse Seligman, Salem H. Wales, Orlando B. Potter, Justice Herrman, Carl Schurz and others. The Rev. Dr. George Gottheil opened the ceremonies by prayer. Children of the asylum next sang a German hymn. Then S. M. Cohen, chairman of the Building Committee, presented the trowel with which the corner-stone was to be laid to Jesse Seligman, who placed the stone in position. Mr. Seligman reviewed the history of the institution from the foundation to the present time, and returning thanks for the honor conferred upon him, he introduced Mayor Edson, who spoke as follows: "Ladies and Gentlemen: I am very glad to have the privilege of being present upon an occasion which brings such universal interest as that which attracts us here to-day. However, I shall be able to do nothing more than extend to you my congratulations upon the possession of this beautiful spot and your ability to construct a building upon it for such uses. You are able to construct it upon a foundation stronger, broader and deeper than that of stone or bricks, and that is upon the foundation of charity and laws. I thank you for the privilege I have enjoyed so much of being present here to-day."

After a song by the children of the asylum Chief-Justice Daly of the Court of Common Pleas was introduced. The Jewish people, he said, in every country assimilated with the people of that country and they were most faithful and patriotic. Their charity was proverbial and was one of the distinguishing characteristics of the race. Dr. F. de Sola Mendes congratulated the society on the good work it had started. Carl Schurz also congratulated the society on the good effects of its undertaking, and referred to the invaluable influences of family life on children's minds. He favored the plan adopted by the institution of sending children to the public schools where they mingled with other children and breathed the pure air of liberty. The ceremonies closed by the singing of a Hebrew hymn and a prayer by the Rev. Dr. K. Kohler.

CHANGES IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Fire Commissioners yesterday received a report from Assistant Chief Engineer Bonner to the effect that sixty firemen had become proficient in the use of life-saving appliances under the recent instruction of Christopher Hoell, of St. Louis. He recommended that a permanent school of instruction be established in the new engine-house in Tenth-ave., near Ninety-seventh-st., and that the school be divided into two branches—one for instructing the Life Saving Corps, and the other for training applicants for appointment in the care and use of fire-extinguishing apparatus. Candidates for membership in the Fire Department must be required to serve a probationary term of ten days under instruction in the Life Saving Corps, and a disqualification for service in the corps is to be a bar to appointment. The Commissioners adopted Chief Bonner's recommendations and directed Secretary Jussen to prepare a general order on the subject for promulgation in the department. They also appointed Chief Bonner the instructor of the school and gave him permission to choose two foremen in the department to act as his assistants, each assistant to take charge of one branch of instruction in the school.

Assistant Foreman McAdam was promoted to be a foreman and Privates Banta, Broderick, Jones, Murphy and Needham to be assistant foremen. The six firemen were the first to volunteer as members of the Life Saving Corps in answer to the invitation of the Commissioners before the corps was organized. Foreman McAdam will be the assistant instructor of the Life Saving Corps. The newly appointed assistant foremen will be assigned to hook and ladder companies and will direct the use of life-saving appliances at fires.

THE EPISCOPAL CONVENTIONS.

The Protestant Episcopal Convention of the Diocese of Long Island concluded its sixteenth annual session yesterday in the Church of the Holy Trinity in Brooklyn. The Rev. William Short offered a resolution providing that it was the sense of the Church of Long Island that provision should be made at an early day for such use of the Book of Common Prayer as would allow a greater liberty in the matter of a shorter service. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Canons, of which the Rev. Dr. Hall is chairman, which reported the following: Resolved, as the sense of this convention, that the General Convention should make provision in the constitutional manner for allowing shortened services on week days other than those for which especial services are provided. The resolution was unanimously adopted. R. E. Graham, of the American Church Temperance Society, addressed the convention on temperance topics, and stated that he proposed to get up a public sentiment in favor of a more stringent excise law. The convention voted to co-operate with him. The following clerical and lay delegates and alternates to the next general convention, to be held in Philadelphia in October, were elected by ballot: The Rev. Drs. Charles H. Hall, Noah Hunt Schenck, T. Stafford Drowne, and William A. Snively; Henry E. Pierrepont, Jasper W. Gilbert, John A. King and William Nicoll.

The Episcopal Convention of the Diocese of Northern New-Jersey met again in Trinity Church, Hoboken. Bishop Starkey read an address on the mission work of the diocese, and congratulated the convention on its satisfactory condition. There are in the diocese one Bishop, seventy-eight priests and three deacons, making a total of eighty-two clergymen. The Board of Missions reported that the receipts for the year were, for general purposes, $3,212 84; for special purposes, $1,418 95; total, $4,631 79. The Board of Missions was selected as follows: Bishop Starkey (ex-officio), the Rev. J. N. Stansbury (ex-officio), the Rev. Dr. E. B. Boggs, The Rev. Dr. A. A. Schuyler, the Rev. H. S. Bishop and Messrs. Henry Hayes (ex-officio), W. C. Hicks and John Stevens. The convention accepted an invitation from Mrs. Stevens to take lunch at Castle Point.

THE PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

QUESTIONS TO COME BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY WHICH MEETS AT SARATOGA TO-DAY.

SARATOGA, N. Y., May 16.—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America will meet here to-morrow and continue in session until about June 1. The Assembly will consist of 600 clerical and lay commissioners, representing 182 presbyteries and 5,741 churches scattered throughout the United States, and in South America, China, Siam and other foreign countries. The services will begin to-morrow at 11 a. m. in the First Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Dr. Herrick Johnson, the moderator of the Assembly held last year, will deliver a sermon in the morning, after which a new moderator will be elected. For that office several names are mentioned to-night. Undoubtedly an Eastern man will be elected. There is no law against the re-election of a moderator, but a precedent of many years' standing prevents such a re-election. "If it were not for this precedent," said a delegate from New-York to-night, "Dr. Crosby would be elected by acclamation." Dr. Crosby was the moderator ten years ago, when the Assembly was held in Baltimore. The most prominent candidates are Dr. Kempshall, of Elizabeth, Dr. Hatfield, of New-York, Dr. J. A. Henry, of Philadelphia, and Charles Hawley, of Auburn, N. Y.

Among the many important questions to be discussed at this meeting will be some affecting the churches belonging to both the Northern and Southern Assemblies, and perhaps some further steps looking to a consolidation of these two bodies may be taken.

This year the Rev. Dr. S. I. Prime, editor of *The New-York Observer*, will represent the Northern Assembly in the Assembly which met at Lexington, Ky., to-day, and the Rev. Dr. Hoyt, of Tennessee, and Dr. Brown, of Virginia, will represent the Southern churches here. It is expected that action will be taken on Friday on the revised Book of Discipline, which was completed last year. A report of special interest to the friends of Home Missions will also be presented, which will no doubt excite much discussion. It has been learned that the Board of Home Missions is opposed to the recommendations made in the report, and the members and supporters of the Board will endeavor to prevent its adoption. A few presbyteries whose members thought that they were not sufficiently consulted in making the appointment of some missionaries have wounded the people's feelings to a very great extent, and it is thought a crippling blow has been given to its work. A report on education as connected with the colleges is also expected.

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONVENTION.

MILWAUKEE, May 16.—The International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association for the United States and the British Provinces opened this morning at the Grand Avenue Congregational Church with 500 delegates in attendance. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President—C. L. Colby, Milwaukee; vice-presidents—R. H. Warner, J. Murray Smith, J. L. Houghtaling, James Bowron, C. A. Jewell and H. H. Chamberlin; recording secretary—F. H. Hatch; assistant secretaries—J. N. Shannon, C. K. Ober and H. E. Sheban.

The opening address was delivered by Mr. Wheat, the retiring president. Addresses were also delivered by Percy Bankart, of the London Association; W. H. Hewitt, of the Manchester Association, and others. Congratulatory dispatches were read from the Earl of Shaftesbury, president of the United Kingdom Association, and Herr Schoumbach, president of the United Association of Germany.

The afternoon meeting was called to order at 3 o'clock. About 700 delegates were present to listen to the initial addresses of C. L. Colby, the newly elected president, the Rev. A. A. Hodge, of Milwaukee, delivered an address of welcome which was responded to by H. Thane Miller.

RELIGIOUS CONVENTIONS.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, May 16.—The General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the United States met in Thirty First Biennial Convention this morning. About 200 delegates were present. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Charles D. Hay, of Gettysburg, Penn., on "The Reformation—from the earliest to the later periods, and what has been accomplished." The convention was then organized.

LAWRENCE, Kan., May 16.—The yearly meeting of the German Baptists, or Dunkards, opened at Bismarck Grove yesterday, 10,000 persons being in attendance, from all parts of the United States.

AN AFRICAN METHODIST CONFERENCE.

KINGSTON, N. Y., May 16.—The annual conference of the A. M. E. Zion Church of the Hudson River Counties and Long Island has been in session here for a week past, and adjourned this evening. Bishop S. L. Jones, of Texas, was the presiding officer.

THE WESTERN STORMS.

BUTTE, Montana, May 16.—A tornado passed over the country eight miles south of this city, yesterday, levelling dwelling-houses, trees and fences. Five hundred feet of the basin flume, thirty feet above the ground, was blown down. Six men were seriously injured. One of them has since died.

FORT STEVENSON, Dak., May 16.—The storm of last week completely isolated this place. The military telegraph lines were down for miles and travel was practically suspended. Wood became so scarce that the proprietor of one hotel here was compelled to purchase a wooden building, that has been a hotel, to use as fuel.

CINCINNATI, May 16.—Reports of the ravages of Monday night's storm in Indiana and Ohio, show that it swept across an area of about twelve miles in length, about six miles north of Connersville, Ind., with a path a few rods wide, striking the little village of Waterloo and destroying every house except three in the place, and doing great damage to the farms, but injuring nobody. The fine iron bridge over White Water River was torn to pieces. In the southern part of Wayne County adjoining, much damage was done to the farms. Houses were unroofed and one or two persons were slightly injured. The same storm passed through Preble County, Ohio, unroofing houses and barns and doing damage estimated at $70,000. Further east, at Germantown and Miamisburg, there was a severe hail storm, doing immense damage to vegetation. The fruit was almost entirely destroyed.

THE WESTERN CATTLE SUPPLY.

CHICAGO, May 16.—*The Drovers' Journal* has received reports in detail from the ranching regions, which show the range cattle business to be in a very thrifty condition. Kansas is the only State that reports an increase in shipments, but the general average is the same as in 1882. The average condition of cattle on the ranges is reported by Kansas, Texas and Indian Territory to be worse than during the corresponding period last year, but all other regions report a better average condition. The shipments of beeves will begin about the same time as in ordinary years.

FORETHOUGHT.—Uncle: "Now, what would you say if I gave you a shilling apiece?" Master Jack: "I'd rather you gave mine to sis, uncle, and told her to buy me a shilling cannon, as pa said the first money I got should go for that window I broke."—[Fun.

A gentleman had his boots blacked by one of two boys, and gave the shiner a $2 bill to get changed. After waiting for some time he said to the other boy: "Where's your partner?" "Oh," said the youth with a grin, "he's bust up, and I'm his assignee."—[Church Union.

OUT-DOOR SPORTS.

NATIONAL JOCKEY CLUB RACES.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The first race at the Ivy City Course to-day, the Youthful Stakes, for two-year-olds, half mile, was won by Tolu, the Chignon colt second, Mittie B., Emigrant, Ruby, Opponent, Colt, Joquita, Webster and True Blue following in the order named. Time, 50¼. Mutuals paid $11 15. The next race, the Mount Vernon Stakes for fillies and mares, 1¼ miles, was won by Lizzie Mack, Bessie second, Topsy third and Kitty Clark fourth. Time, 2:18. Mutuals paid $19 50.

The third race, a dash of one mile, was won by Camillos, Iota second, Brunswick third and Little Katie fourth. Time, 1:47¾. Mutuals paid $64 05. The fourth race, the Diplomatic Stakes, for all ages, 1½ miles, was won by Crickmore, Homespun second and Nettie third. Time, 2:41¼. Mutuals paid $7 90. The fifth race, 1½ miles, over six hurdles, welter weights, was won by Billy, defeating Jim McGowan, Imelda, Joe Lewis and Proud Dick. Time, 2:56. Mutuals paid $42 30.

RACING IN KENTUCKY.

LEXINGTON, Ky., May 16.—The best card of the meeting was presented to-day. Two stake races, the Ashland Oaks, for three-year-old fillies, one and one-quarter miles, and the McGrath stakes, for two-year-old colts and fillies, three-quarters of a mile, in addition to a selling race of one and one-eighth miles, comprised the programme.

The selling race had four starters, Tom Barlow, the favorite, proving the winner in 2:01; Silvio second, and Mystery third. For the Ashland Oaks six of the original thirty-three nominations came to the post. Vera, who sold third choice, won easily by three lengths in 2:10¾, with Billetta second and Imogene third. Queen Bab, who was a hot favorite, ran unplaced, to the surprise of her backers. There were five starters in the third race, for the McGrath stakes, Wizard and Red Bud being withdrawn. This proved another upset for the favorites, Rosary, a very cheap one, winning in 1:17¾. Audrian second and Eva S. third. Ascalon fell.

BASEBALL NEWS.

The baseball game at the Polo Grounds yesterday between the Allegheny and Metropolitan nines was close and exciting, although very little enthusiasm was shown by the spectators. The decisions of the umpire were frequently questioned and the conduct of some of the members of the Allegheny team was not calculated to inspire confidence in or respect for professional baseball players. The Metropolitans played listlessly and Reipschlager, their catcher, did wretchedly. To him is attributable the loss of the game. Brady, Crane, Mack and Peters did good work in the field, while Crane and Swartwood did the best batting. Peters did the best long stopping of the season. The following is the summary of the game:

Allegheny.	R.	BH	PO	A.	E.	Metropolitan.	R.	BH	PO	A.	E.
Dickerson, c.f.	0	0	1	0	0	Nelson, s. s.	0	0	2	2	0
Mansell, l. f.	0	0	2	0	0	Brady, 1 b	0	0	12	0	0
Hayes, c.	0	1	1	3	1	Esterbrk, 3 b.	0	0	1	1	0
Swartwd, r.f.	1	2	0	0	0	O'Rourke, c. f.	0	1	0	0	1
Creamer, 2 b.	1	1	4	3	0	Rosseman, r. f.	1	1	2	0	0
Ballin, 3 b.	1	1	2	1	0	Reipschl'er, c.	1	0	7	1	2
Peters, s. s.	0	0	0	9	2	Kennedy, l. f.	0	0	1	0	0
Mack, 1 b.	0	0	17	1	0	Crane, 2 b.	0	2	2	4	0
Driscol, p.	0	1