and a candidate for nomination for Lieutenant-Governor, dined with the Secretary. The Secretary left the hotel at 8 o'clock with W. E. Smith and Hubert O. Thompson to go to the Fifth Avenue Theatre. After the performance the Secretary met Joseph Pulitzer, Edward Cooper and other local politicans. He declined to talk to a reporter and said he intended to start for Washington in a few hours.

Secretary Whitney arrived here from Lenox, Mass., last night. It is understood that he will have a conference with Mr. Manning to-day.

PROPOSING GENERAL MERRITT FOR GOVERNOR

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Discussion of the Republican candidates for the Governorship seems to be in order and I would like to have my say.

Isn't it best that we should eliminate from this election the idea that we are inventing a candidate for the Presidency in 1888, and content ourselves with electing a plain, honest, capable man of the people, whom the people will be willing to elect to be their Governor for the next three years? With that notion in mind I have a new candidate to name, and probably no body in the State will be more surprised at having his name mentioned than he will be himself. Why would not General Edwin A. Merritt, formerly Collector of the Port of New-York and late Consul-General of London, be just the man? He was once a half-breed, but he made so satisfactory a Collector of the Port that those at first opposed to him made as much fuss as anybody else at his being removed. He made a model Consul-General of London. He shows great executive capacity, absolute integrity and devotion to the public interests. He is a man of the people and is liked by them.

Where is there a candidate named likely to get more votes from the hard-fisted countrymen, whose votes we most want? Where is there one against whom the Democrats could say less? Even the Mugwumps are committed in his favor by their eulogies of his administration of the Custom House and their groans over his removal to London. If anybody has a better man, name him. If not, give some serious thought to this man whom I name. UP NORTH.

Plattsburg, N. Y., Aug. 31, 1885.

TIME AND ELECTRICITY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: As a matter of interest to your readers I give you herewith a statement from a gentleman connected with a large English business house in this city illustrative of remarkable rapidity in telegraphy and the seeming annihilation of time. It is important to follow it closely.

On a certain Tuesday morning a telegram was received per night message by the New-York house from a San Francisco correspondent asking the price of an article sold by the New-York firm. The New-York house cabled at 10 a. m. to London for the price, and the same was received in London about 3 p. m. the same day, five hours later than New-York. The London house wired to Worcestershire for the price from a manufacturer, and received the same per wire at 5 p. m. the same day, Tuesday. London then cabled the price to New-York at 5 p. m. and the dispatch was received in New-York about 12, noon, the same day, Tuesday, or five hours earlier than London. New-York then wired to the San Francisco correspondent (five hours earlier than New-York), who received it when he came down to business on the morning of the same day, Tuesday. San Francisco wired to New-York accepting the price, which dispatch was received in New-York at 3 p. m. the same day, Tuesday, five hours later than San Francisco. Now note the results:

San Francisco to New-York (inquiry)	3,000 miles.
New-York to London (for price)	3,000 miles.
London to New-York (giving price)	3,000 miles.
New-York to San Francisco (giving price)	3,000 miles.
San Francisco to New-York (accepting price)	3,000 miles.
In all	15,000 miles.

not counting the dispatches which passed between London and Worcestershire. And yet, at the hour of 3 p. m. Tuesday, when New-York received the dispatch from San Francisco accepting terms, London was wiring, Worcestershire for the said terms. New-York stood between the ten hours between San Francisco and London, and hence the surprising results. Yours respectfully,

New-York, Sept. 2, 1885. X. Y. Z.

A WEDDING AT MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

MONTPELIER, Sept. 2 (*Special*).—The marriage of Professor John Williams Burgess, of Columbia College, and Miss Ruth Payne, only daughter of Colonel F. P. Jewett, of Montpelier, took place at the home of the bride's parents this afternoon. The guests included many friends of the bridegroom and bride from Boston and New-York. The marriage ceremony was performed by President Seelye, of Amherst College, assisted by the Rev. J. Edward Wright, of Montpelier. The groomsman was Professor E. Munroe Smith, of Columbia College, and the bridesmaid Miss Fifield, of Montpelier. The ushers were A. R. Willard and C. J. Hubbard, of Montpelier. After the ceremony a reception was given lasting from 1 to 3 o'clock. The rich diamond pin and earrings worn by the bride were the gift of the bridegroom. Diamonds were also given by the bride's mother.

MRS. SARTORIS AND HER BROTHER SAIL.

A notable party of persons filled the big bus of the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday morning. They were the three sons and daughters of the late General Grant, Colonel F. D., U. S., Jesse R. and Mrs. Algernon Sartoris, with Mrs. Colonel Grant and Mrs. Jesse R. Grant, on their way to the steamship Werra, on which Jesse R. Grant and wife and Mrs. Sartoris sailed for Europe. Mrs. General Grant remained quietly at the hotel with Mrs. U. S. Grant. A number of friends of the Grants were at the steamship pier to see them start. Mrs. General Grant remained in the hotel all day. A number of tradesmen called to receive orders for the furnishing of the Sixty-sixth-st. house. She decided not to go to Purdy's Station until to-day, and her son, U. S., remained here to accompany her. His wife went home yesterday afternoon with her father, ex-Senator Chaffee. Colonel Grant's departure for Chicago has been delayed to the latter part of the week.

A STORY ABOUT THE HERALD.

A report is current that John W. Mackay is negotiating with James Gordon Bennett for the purchase of *The New-York Herald*, with the intention of putting John Russell Young at the head of its editorial staff. Mr. Mackay is interested with Mr. Bennett in the Bennett-Mackay cable, in the construction of which $8,000,000 is said to have been sunk. For Mr. Bennett's share of this enterprise Mr. Mackay is reported to hold a mortgage on *The Herald*. Mackay's wealth is much talked about in this connection. He is said to have $21,000,000 in securities locked up in his strong box—$5,000,000 in United States 4 per cents, $5,000,000 in rentes, $5,000,000 in consols, and $6,000,000 in state bonds and similar securities of this country, bearing 5 to 8 per cent interest. In addition to this is his cable investment and his interest in the Bank of Nevada. The gossip runs that he would be able to back *The Herald* with $50,000,000.

THE TRIBUNE FRESH-AIR FUND.

Previously acknowledged	$19,928 97
Proceeds of a fair given at the Dunwellyn, Glenwood on the Hudson, N. Y.—Clothilde Mason, age nine years, Emilie Duryea Mason, age six years, Florence Gibson, age ten years, Mabel Smith, age nine years, Helen Duckwitz, age ten years	63 00
W. S. Chappell, New-London, Conn	37 00
S. L. H.	25 00
Proceeds of children's fair held at Cox House, Lake Mahopac, N. Y., Maud Pratt, Edward Piercy, Lewis Cole, Henry Engler, W. B. Blunt, $63 10, Alfred and Charley $1, Miss Sehn 50 cents, Miss Townsley's Sunday-school class $6	70 60
Mrs. J. S. Burke	10 00
"Zion Chapel Sunday-school, Hastings-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.	5 00
L. P. S., Lewellyn Park	25 00
Isabel Emmerson, Jennie Emmerson, Wyoming, N. J.	6 00
H. A. D.	2 00
Total Sept. 2, 1885	$20,172 57

GENERAL CARR PLEASANTLY GREETED.

A social reception was given last evening at No. 427 Fulton-st., Brooklyn, to General Joseph B. Carr, Secretary of State. As General Carr was in this city some of his old army comrades in Brooklyn decided to invite him to that city, and about forty of them gathered to greet him. The reception was purely informal, and army reminiscences took the place of set speeches. Among those present were Generals Catlin, Roberts, De Lacey and O'Beirne, Captain W. T. Squires and Major W. L. Walker.

A SWINDLE IN DRUGS.

William Vincent, a druggist, of No. 117 Broadway, Brooklyn, has detected a gross fraud in the drug market, by a clever imitation of John Wyeth & Bro.'s Beef, Iron and Wine, a standard proprietary medicine. He was recently approached by a young man who offered to sell him the medicine at $6 a dozen, the regular trade price being $7. Mr. Vincent said if he could make it $5 50 a dozen he would take all he had. The man sold him six dozen bottles and said he would soon have more. Close examination by Mr. Vincent showed him that the wrappers and labels were not genuine, although a clever counterfeit. The name had been altered to "John Wyeth & Bros.," the genuine being "John Wyeth & Bro." When Mr. Vincent denounced the swindle the young man tried to carry off the goods, but went away without them when Mr. Vincent mentioned the police. The next day another man tried to reclaim the goods. The manufacturers of the genuine article are investigating the fraud. Analysis of the bogus beef, wine and iron shows it to be worthless. It is believed that many druggists have been swindled by it.

AN OLD WOMAN'S JUMP FROM A FERRYBOAT.

An elderly woman, shabbily dressed, and apparently under the influence of liquor, jumped from the Pavonia ferryboat Jay Gould yesterday evening. The boat was stopped and the woman rescued by the deck hands with the assistance of some of the passengers. She gave her name as Julia McGlynn, and said that she was sixty years old and lived in New-York, but declined to give any further information about herself. She was taken to the Charity Hospital, and the physician there expressed the opinion that she was suffering from alcoholism.

A PEDLER KILLED BY A TRAIN.

An unknown pedler, about twenty-five years of age, was struck by the Philadelphia Express on the Pennsylvania Railroad at Chestnut Street Station in Newark yesterday evening and instantly killed.

MR. LEVY KNOWS LITTLE ABOUT L. A. WHITE

Hermann Levy, of No. 105 Fulton-st., a diamond-cutter, was shown a dispatch from St. Louis printed in Monday's TRIBUNE, in which Lucius A. White, who is charged with counterfeiting Brazilian notes, refers to him and his brother, Charles Levy, as among his acquaintances in this city.

"Yes, I remember Mr. White and his brother, the Texan," said Mr. Levy, looking up from the study of a glittering gem. "They came to see me twice, once about a year ago and again last May. They wanted a diamond cut, which I did, and sent them a bill, a trifle of $75 or $85. The bill was paid and the diamond delivered. My brother Charles, who is now in South Africa, was with them and knew them better than I did. I understood them to say that they had just come from Brazil, where they ran a cocoa plantation about three miles from the diamond mines of that country. They stayed at the Stevens House. I know nothing of their schemes or history before or since I saw them."

At the Stephens House Mr. Brodhead, the proprietor, said that if the Whites stayed at his hotel they must have done so under an assumed name.

ELECTIVE STUDIES AT BROWN.

FEATURES OF PRESIDENT ROBINSON'S ANNUAL REPORT—CHANGES IN THE CURRICULUM.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

PROVIDENCE, Sept. 2.—The corporation of Brown University held its annual meeting in Manning Hall today. The president presented his annual report. In the opening of his report, President Robinson alludes to the fact that "there are signs of a growing appreciation among students of the value of a college education, and also evidences of a strengthening regard for all the proprieties and obligations of life. The moral tone from year to year," he adds, "becomes increasingly satisfactory." Special instruction will be furnished those who may desire to study Spanish and Italian. The report discusses at length the subject of electives in a course of college study. The introduction of so many of these has called for a rearrangement of the entire college curriculum. How radical some of the changes recommended are will appear from the statement that the study of pure mathematics is left optional with the student after the freshman year, and that of Greek and Latin after the second year. The student may elect German if he wishes to from the beginning of the sophomore year, and carry it on the remainder of the college course. Physiology is no longer a required study of the junior year, but an elective of the sophomore. The required studies for the degree of both Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Philosophy are the same. The studies for the latter degree are more numerous than those for the former, and are grouped under four distinct classes, each class being "so arranged as to meet, as nearly as possible, the existing attainments and needs, as well as the tastes and anticipated callings of special classses of students." President Robinson admits that the elective system, so largely prevalent in institutions of learning, has some serious disadvantages. "Love of ease or freaks of fancy" may prompt the choices of the student. A dwarfed, one-sided, superficial education will follow such choices. If, however, there be a carefully guarded system of optional studies, there may be marked beneficial results in the carrying out of such a system. "To give," says President Robinson, "the same degree to diverse kinds of culture—to send out into the world a man who has been trained only in the physical sciences and modern languages with the same diploma that is given to one who has been trained in classical literature as well as in philosophy and science—is not merely to do violence to the traditions of the past and to disparage the value of learning, but it is to confuse the public mind, and to say emphatically that an education which fits for an industrial calling does just as much for a man and in itself is just as valuable as an education that acquaints with the past and familiarizes with the great principles that have shaped the destinies of nations and determined the civilizations of the world."

The introduction, on so large a scale, of electives into the curricula of college studies, necessarily must lead to some changes in the conferring of what hitherto has been called the four distinct honorary degrees, the "classical," "philosophical," "salutatory" and "valedictory" orations. These degrees have been given according to rank in the class. Under the new arrangement of studies where so many of them are elective, the mere rank of the student might give him the Latin oration, even if, for two years, he had not looked into a Latin book. Hereafter honors will be bestowed which shall be more distinctly representative of the work actually accomplished.

That Brown University has no disposition to undervalue the course of what is called "classical studies," appears from the decided language of the president: "In all the changes proposed," he remarks, "it is not to be understood that the faculty are in the least degree disposed to disparage classical learning, or to afford the slightest pretext for neglecting it. On the contrary, an increased attention to it is confidently expected. To every student desiring it opportunity will be afforded for further advance in the study of classical literature than hitherto has been possible with us."

The report of President Robinson alludes to the recent bequests of Senator Anthony and Professor G. I. Chace to the university. It recommends the publication of a quinquennial catalogue—and, at a later date—a comprehensive catalogue containing brief notices of all students of the university who from its establishment have been connected with the institution.

A portrait of James Brown, the father of the "Four Brothers" of that name, whose connection was so intimate with the university, was presented to the college by Mrs. Carrie M. Bajuotti, of Paris, a descendant of Mr. Brown. Miss Anna A. Stout, a sister of William Stout, of New-York, announced to the corporation that she intended to present to the university a valuable herbarium, collected by her brother, with valuable botanical books to accompany the same. The following were re-elected: Thomas Durfee, LL.D., chancellor; S. L. Caldwell, D.D., secretary; A. B. Chace, treasurer.

BRIGHT OUTLOOK IN THE IRON TRADE.

REORGANIZING A GREAT COMPANY—PREPARING FOR A BIG OUTPUT.

People who are hopefully inclined will find a promise of better times coming for the depressed iron trade in the reorganization and renewed activity of the Troy Steel and Iron Works. A meeting of the board of directors was held at No. 11 Pine-st. on August 26, and the following officers were elected: President, Chester Griswold; vice-president, Erastus Corning; secretary and treasurer, Seldon E. Marvin. The new corporation has bought the property of the Albany and Rensselaer Iron and Steel Company at Troy, with a hundred acres of land in Albany County opposite the works, and intends putting up blast furnaces sufficient to turn out 150,000 tons of pig iron annually. Preliminary work on Hill-house Island, where the furnaces are to be erected, is already begun, and the foundations will be laid before frost comes. If all goes well they will be completed in a year. A force of 200 men are now at work there, and $650,000 will be expended on furnaces, tracks, piers, etc.

The officers of the company say that there is a stronger tone noticeable in business circles, and they hope to be running under full head giving employment to 3,000 men by the time these improvements are completed. The prospect of an adjustment of the railroad war will strengthen the steel rail market and steel rails are their main product. Heretofore they have bought all the pig metal used in making their rails, but they claim that by the employment of these furnaces, which are to have all the modern improvements, and the use of ores recently developed by the Chateaugray and Hudson River Iron companies, they can manufacture their own pig metal at $15 a ton, as limestone can be obtained near by and at reasonable prices, while they are directly on the great transportation lines and can get coal cheaply. "We can thus," says the company's circular, "conduct our manufactures on the most economical and independent basis." Secretary Marvin is reported as saying that the prospects for success are most encouraging, and that the company was entirely satisfied with the outlook. They make many varieties of merchant steel, as well as steel rails, and the demand for this is slowly increasing. He thinks that eventually Bessemer steel will entirely take the place of iron for many purposes.

Mr. Griswold was for eleven years vice-president of the old Albany and Rensselaer Iron and Steel Company; in fact, ever since it was formed by the consolidation of the Rensselaer Steel Works, belonging to the estate of his father, John A. Griswold, and the Albany Iron Works, owned by Erastus Corning. In 1875 this company paid out over $900,000 in wages, consumed 120,000 tons of coal and turned out steel rails at the rate of 4,000 tons a month. The old Rensselaer Works were the cradle of the Bessemer steel industry in this country, for it was there in 1865 that Messrs. Griswold, Winslow, Corning and Holley introduced the process in America. The reorganization of the company under the new name was completed a few weeks ago. It enters upon its work with a capital of $2,500,000, of which at least $1,000,000 will be left for working capital.

RAILROAD INTERESTS.

EAST-BOUND FREIGHT RATES.

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—The thorough demoralization in east-bound freight rates continues. To-day representatives of the Vanderbilt lines, including the presidents of the Michigan Central and Lake Shore, met here and agreed to fix grain rates to New-York at 12 cents a hundred, Philadelphia 10 and Baltimore 9. This is 8 cents below the tariff.

FIGHTING THE ERIE AT PASSAIC.

A flank movement has been executed against the Erie Railroad Company in the protracted fight between it and the New-York, Susquehanna and Western, over the right to run a spur into the manufacturing section of Passaic, N. J., at Dundee. There was recorded yesterday in the County Clerk's office of Passaic County the certificate of incorporation of the Equitable Land Company, of Passaic City. The incorporators are all connected with the Susquehanna interest, and the location of the property which the corporation has acquired, ostensibly for the purpose of improving and selling real estate, indicates sufficiently the main object of the incorporation. The property thus acquired is known as the Vreeland Farm, on the east bank of the Dundee Canal and running to the Passaic River. It embraces about seventy-five acres, and takes in the ice houses, etc., of the Saddle River Ice Company and the land on which the Erie Railroad proposed to build its spur and on which some of the Erie tracks have already been laid. It is said that the new company has also acquired all the rights of the Vreeland heirs in the Dundee Canal, so that the Susquehanna interest, in conjunction with the Dundee Water Power and Land Company, which is friendly to it, controls the canal from Monroe-st. north, and can direct the projected spur over any one of several routes.

THE LATE SEASON AT SARATOGA.

HOTELS TO REMAIN OPEN UNTIL OCTOBER 1.

SARATOGA, Sept. 2 (*Special*).—Owing to the promise of a late season, and the numerous conventions this month, almost all of the hotels will remain open until October 1.

The Saratoga County Fair opened at Ballston Spa today. To-morrow it is expected that Senator Warner Miller will deliver the annual address.

John Jay, of New-York, Henry A. Richmond, of Buffalo, Augustus Schoonmaker, of Kingston, E. M. Jenkins and C. B. Angle, of Albany, were in town on Monday and transacted routine business of the Civil Service Commission at the United States Hotel.

The children's play of "Bobby Shafto," netted about $400 for the Home of the Good Shepherd.

The last display of fireworks for the season at Congress Park was given to-night, the Saliston band furnishing the music.

During August the letter carriers in this village collected and delivered an aggregate of 429,172 pieces of mail matter, the majority being letters.

Bishop Henry C. Potter is visiting W. A. Shepherd, at his cottage on North Broadway.

The Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman is a guest at the Hunstis House. He will preach in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, next Sunday.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

SIGNS OF RETURNING PROSPERITY.

A REVIVAL OF CONFIDENCE AND AN ADVANCE IN PRICES.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 2.—In a review of the business situation, General Manager Swank, of the American Iron and Steel Association, says: "On July 1 at the beginning of the second half of the present year, we were compelled to say that the depression in business in the country then showed no signs of disappearing. Two months have passed and now, at the beginning of September, we are gratified in being able to say that the tide has at last turned and that general business is surely improving from day to day. There is a more hopeful feeling prevailing in business circles in all large manufacturing and business centres. The demand for manufactured products has perceptibly quickened and in some lines prices have slightly advanced. The feeling of confidence that did not exist two months ago, and which is now everywhere visible, can be directly traced to the increased business which the two months have brought. If we attempt to discover the influences which have created the increased demand for manufactured products we will all probably agree that a leading influence is the better feeling that exists in railroad circles. In our iron and steel industries, candor compels us to say that the revival has not equally affected all branches. There is an increased demand for best grades of foundry and forge pig iron, and a decided hardening in prices, but common grades remain as they were. Bar iron is firm at former quotations and in increased demand; plate iron is firm and advancing, sheet iron is more active and prices are a shade better. Structural iron, especially for bridges, is in greater demand, and bridge builders are in receipt of many new orders. Prices are unchanged but firm.

"In oil and gas pipes, especially for natural gas companies, there is great activity, and prices have greatly advanced. Nails are in better demand. Steel rails have advanced from $27 in July in Pennsylvania, to $29 and $30 at the close of August. We know of several thousand tons of standard sections that were sold last week by a Pennsylvania company for delivery in November and December at $30 at the mill. The mills in Pennsylvania and in other States are well supplied with orders to December and some of them into next year. Inquiries are numerous. To sum up, there is a revival of confidence, an increase in the consumption of nearly all manufactured products and a strong tendency to higher prices, in many instances higher prices having already been realized. Business is certainly better and in wool and woollen goods, steel rails, gas and other pipes, and some other specialties it is much better. The tide has turned."

DISPENSING WITH HUNGARIAN LABOR.

HUNTINGDON, Penn., Sept. 2 (*Special*).—After a protracted trial of Hungarian labor at the Saxton Furnaces the operators have concluded to dispense with it and to employ American labor in its stead. The foreigners did not show that intelligence and aptness at learning that are necessary to produce the best results. The men to take their places will come from Riddlesburg where they were employed by the Kemble Coal and Iron Company when the works at that place were in operation. The loss of the Hungarians will scarcely be noticed, as they added but little to the prosperity of the place.

EXCITED BICKLAYERS AND STONEMASONS.

CHICAGO, Sept. 2 (*Special*).—Over a thousand members of the Bricklayers and Stonemasons' Union attended a meeting in this city last night. A resolution which had been adopted at a former meeting compelling each member to turn out in the labor demonstration next Monday or to pay a fine of $10 was rescinded by an overwhelming majority. Some members attempted to speak, in order to prove that a member had a right to be a socialist, but the enemies of socialists would not listen to them, and there was a great deal of confusion. The meeting was hurriedly adjourned to prevent it from turning into a riot. The Stonecutters' Union also met and rescinded a similar resolution passed at a former meeting. This meeting also broke up in disorder.

THROUGH NEW-YORK STATE.

MR. MANNING VISITS ALBANY POST OFFICE.

ALBANY, Sept 2 (*Special*).—Local politicians here are excitedly discussing a conversation which on Democratic authority is reported to have taken place between Secretary Manning and Postmaster O'Leary. Mr. O'Leary has already made nearly a clean sweep in the post office here, retaining only six or seven out of about fifty employes, and filling their places with Democrats. Among those thus far retained has been Charles H. Zeilman, a one-armed, ex-soldier and prominent Grand Army man. During Secretary Manning's visit to the postmaster *The Albany Journal* states positively that Secretary Manning said:

"I see you still have Zeilman in the office. Why is he not removed?"

"Well, he's a pretty good man, and besides he is a Grand Army man and the order have requested his retention," was Mr. O'Leary's reply.

"The Grand Army be blank," Mr. Manning is reported to have remarked: "Remove him at once and put 'Mike' Gorman in his place."

"Mike," as Mr. Manning familiarly called Michael J. Gorman, of the Fifteenth Ward, has represented the ward in the Common Council and was recently property clerk and is a "heeler" of some influence in his ward. Postmaster O'Leary this afternoon said: "I am not prepared to say that Gorman won't go in there when the change is made, but it has not been definitely decided upon as yet." To a question whether there was any truth in the report that the change would be made at the request of Mr. Manning, Dr. O'Leary said that that was something about which he did not desire to be quoted.

DISCOVERY OF A TAILLESS COMET.

ROCHESTER, Sept. 2.—On the evening of August 31 W. R. Brooks, of Phelps, N. Y., discovered a supposed comet, which to-night was verified by Professor Lewis Swift, Director of the Warner Observatory, of this city. Its position is: Right ascension, 13 hours 41 minutes; declination north, 36 degrees 40 minutes. It has no tail nor nucleus, and is pretty faint. It is moving southeasterly, and can easily be seen through a four-inch telescope. It is in the constellation of the Hunting Dog. This discovery, if not antedated, entitles Mr. Brooks to the Warner prize of $200, making the third won by him in the past three years.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S VACATION.

STEVENS HOUSE, LAKE PLACID, Sept. 2.—President Cleveland was tendered a reception here last evening and there was a display of fireworks in his honor. He visited Auchincloss Cottage this morning with Dr. Ward, and both left at 11 o'clock to return to Saranac Lake. The weather is stormy.

BUFFALO TO HAVE A CREMATORY.

BUFFALO, Sept. 2 (*Special*).—Guiseppe Venini, of Milan, Italy, has cabled his acceptance of the contract with the Buffalo Cremation Society to build a crematory in this city. Since the society has raised funds for the erection of its building it has met nothing but opposition on the part of the clergy, undertakers and cemetery associations. Its incorporators are the wealthiest and most influential people of the city, and they will push their project to an early completion. The Italian is expected here in a month, and work will be immediately begun.

JOTTINGS HERE AND THERE.

TROY, Sept. 1.—Emil Seitz, proprietor of the Sunlight Knitting Mill, has made an assignment, with preferences of $1,100 in favor of employes. Troy banks are preferred in third class on notes aggregating $10,300.

ALBANY, Sept. 1.—The State Board of Equalization met at noon to-day, and listened to complaints from Kings, New-York and Schoharie Counties, and adjourned until September 29, when the equalized tables will be submitted.

WATERLOO, Sept. 1.—A street railway car drawn by a motor pitched off the trestle near Seneca Falls to-day. Of thirty persons on it, William McKee was injured, and all were badly shaken up. The car was suspended over a gully fifteen feet deep. The escape from a fatal accident was narrow.

INDUSTRIOUS THIEVES AT A CAMP-MEETING.

COATESVILLE, Penn., Sept. 2 (*Special*).—Ann Butcher, a well-known colored woman, has been conducting a camp-meeting at Woodland Station, this county, the past three weeks. The services were brought to a close last night and were characterized by the usual walk-around. Several thousand persons were present, among them a well-organized gang of thieves. The edge of the woods was lined with vehicles of all descriptions, belonging to the farmers, who had come many miles to witness the closing exercises. While Mrs. Butcher was addressing the throng the thieves, who had driven up from Philadelphia in a wagon, were stripping every buggy on the grounds of valuable goods. They escaped with a heavy load unobserved by any one. Four teams were found missing, horses had been unhitched and the wildest confusion prevailed when the thefts were discovered. When the horses were found the animals were completely stripped of their harness or had their gearing so badly cut that their owners were obliged to remain in the woods all night.

A NEGRO SOLD AS A BOY WHEN OVER FIFTY.

ELBERTON, Ga., Sept. 2 (*Special*).—The death of George Edwards, a negro, age about 110, occurred to-day. He was bought between fifty and sixty years ago by Alexander Hughes, of this place. The bargain was made at night, and as George had no beard and was small withal and Hughes's eyesight was not good, he was sold as a boy of fifteen. When the next day Hughes found him to be a man over fifty his rage knew no bounds. George has lived here sixty-one years.

FIGHTING RAG DISINFECTION.

SOME LIVELY TALK BY IMPORTERS.

A STORMY HEARING BEFORE THE QUARANTINE COMMISSIONERS.

Such an array of rag importers and lawyers appeared before the Quarantine Commissioners yesterday to state their grievances in regard to enforced disinfection of rags arriving here from foreign ports that the Commissioners had to remove temporarily to more commodious quarters, at No. 71 Broadway. The hearing was in accordance with a resolution offered by Commissioner Judd and adopted a few days ago, that, it having been "alleged in public prints that a so-called disinfecting company has and is charging exorbitant rates for disinfecting rags arriving in Quarantine, the authors of these statements be invited to appear before the Board and make known their grievances, to the end that reasonable charges for disinfecting may be fixed by this Board." Mr. Judd avers that section 4, of rule 26, of the laws of Quarantine, gives the Commissioners the authority to fix and determine upon all charges at Quarantine.

Commissioner Platt presided, and on either side of him sat Commissioners Nichols and Judd. Twenty or thirty rag importing houses of this city and Boston were represented either directly or by counsel, and at various periods of the proceedings there were spirited discussions, charges and counter-charges, which required the voice of the chair to interrupt and moderate. Mr. Bartlett, the sole representative of the disinfecting company, was shrewd in meeting the attacks upon his company and frequently pretended to answer the questions put to him with regard to the cost and process of disinfection, but when he finished his listeners were no better informed than before. Mr. McCrea, representing Lockwood & McClintock, made a brief statement of grievances, the principal of which was that the company was a monopoly and charged $5 for disinfecting a ton of rags, when it could be done for 20 per cent of that. A Mr. Michaelis frequently interrupted Mr. Bartlett in his answers, and one of his first remarks was that he could show letters proving that the disinfecting process by superheated steam ruined the rags.

Mr. Bartlett—On the contrary, I can show lots of letters from paper mills showing that the steam process is not injurious to the rags.

Mr. Michaelis—Mr. Bartlett should be made to answer whether the disinfection cannot be done for one-half the present cost. New-York is the only port in the world which insists that all rags shall be disinfected upon arrival.

Mr. Blume, of Blume Brothers, said: "Not only are the charges too high, but no expression is sufficient to denounce the swindler. At Marseilles, where it is known the highest port charges of the world are exacted, the rags are taken to an island, disinfected and landed at the warehouse at $2 10 a ton."

Mr. Bartlett asked if Mr. McClintock "can back up what has been said that rags can be disinfected at less than $1 a ton?"

Mr. McClintock—I can.

Mr. Bartlett—How do you know?

Mr. McClintock—From common sense, although there has not been a display of much of it here.

Mr. Bartlett—Although the Commissioners of Quarantine have not the right to fix the charges, I am willing to leave it to arbitration by them or by merchants of good standing.

Mr. McCrea—I don't want to submit to such a decision, as a son of one of the Commissioners (Mr. Platt) is one of the counsel for Mr. Bartlett.

Mr. Bartlett—It's not true; the firm was dissolved yesterday.

Mr. McCrea—It is one of the misfortunes that we are constantly running against connections.

Chairman Platt here called Mr. McCrea to order, and said that his remarks were uncalled for, and impugned the motives of the Commissioners. To this Mr. McCrea uttered a semi-apology, and said that he had no desire to cast any reflections upon the Commission. Then an attempt was made to have Mr. Bartlett reveal the cost of the disinfecting company's plant and some other secrets. He said: "I have been disinfecting for thirty days, and the average cost has been $4 32 a ton. I have no ill-will against any competitor, and will not oppose any new company."

Commissioner Judd—Will you offer no obstacles to the success of any other company?

Mr. Bartlett—I will bail the day of the introduction of one, and bid it godspeed. If they attempt to steal my patents I will stop them. These gentlemen who are attacking me, let them club together and buy my plant, and pay what it has cost.

B. F. Einstein, for De Castro & Co.—What did the plant cost?

Mr. Bartlett—I will not tell you.

Mr. Einstein—Well, you want to sell it.

Mr. Bartlett—Make me an offer.

Mr. Warren, of Boston—On what are the expenses for disinfection, which you state as $4 32 a ton, based?

Mr. Bartlett—I shall be glad to state it to the Commission, but I shall not answer you gentlemen. Why should I show the trade of Boston how we in New-York conduct business?

Mr. Einstein—When we go into court and get process, then we will get to the bottom of this, and not until then. Mr. Bartlett, we are not fighting you personally, but are fighting the monopoly you represent.

The assemblage then broke up in general disorder without deciding upon anything, but as the merchants and lawyers were filing out of the room, Chairman Platt said that the Commissioners would meet at 1 p. m. to-day.

LOSING HER LITTLE OFFICE.

MISS BEDELL REMOVED WITHOUT CAUSE FROM THE RICHMOND POST OFFICE.

Congressman Perry Belmont is working the fourth-class postmastership guillotine in a lively way on Staten Island. It is being made to serve not only the political but also the social ends of his lieutenants. In Richmond, the little town in the centre of Richmond County, Miss M. J. Bedell has handled the scanty and infrequent mails for a dozen years. Her annual stipend depending on the business of the office has averaged $200, and, with this, in addition to a small trade in calicoes and muslins, she has helped to maintain a dependent family. Near by the Misses Black keep a bigger shop, where in addition to the usual stock of dry-goods, merchandise of a general kind, both useful and ornamental, is offered for sale. Their business is supposed to be much more considerable than that done over Miss Bedell's unpretentious counter.

Cornelius A. Hart, just turned thirty, is the amiable County Clerk of Richmond County, and is one of the Hon. Perry Belmont's young guards. Indeed, Mr. Hart's local newspaper organ boasts that the Congressman will have no other counsel concerning the spoils for Richmond County than that of the Clerk, and it has been widely impressed upon the hungry patriots of Staten Island that admission to the public crib can only be secured by a pass check countersigned by Mr. Hart.

At the home of the Misses Black, Mr. Hart is a frequent and, it is said, a welcome visitor. When wearied of the clamor and turmoil of statesmanship, he finds relief among the ginghams and alpacas in their shop. He has seemed to take a great interest in extending its revenues, and last Wednesday when Miss Bedell saw in the papers that, without so much as a word either of complaint or warning, she had been removed and the post office given Miss Mary Black, she quickly arrived at the conclusion that the new and improved Civil Service reform had been at work through the influence of Mr. Hart to the advantage of his friend Miss Black. The villagers of Richmond express a great deal of idle pleasure that a lady who has so faithfully and so long served them should be cast aside without even an excuse.

Over at New-Dorp, a few miles away from Richmond, the office has been taken away from an old and efficient officer without any claim of course, and given to a man who has done nothing to deserve it.

THE FIRE RECORD.

S. DEXTER'S BATH-HOUSE DESTROYED.

Flames were discovered at 2:30 a. m. yesterday in S. Dexter's bath-house, at the foot of West Twenty-first-st., and in less than a hour the greater part of the building was in ruins. The structure was three stories high, built of wood, the lower story being filled with ballast and submerged. An office and 117 dressing-rooms occupied the second story, and in the top story were living rooms for Mr. Dexter and his assistants. Five persons, including the proprietor, were asleep in the upper rooms when the alarm of fire was sounded, and they had little time left for flight, but managed to escape safely. The flames started in the office. Mr. Dexter said he could not tell the origin of the fire, because there was no light in the building except a lantern. His loss is estimated at $6,000 and it is covered by insurance in several companies.

FLAMES IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 2 (*Special*).—There were three fires to-day, all doing considerable damage to property and machinery. The knitting mills of Thomas Henry, jr., & Co. were almost totally destroyed, and before the flames were under control the departments occupied by Robert Beatty, Joseph Greer and Henry Grant were burned out. The structure was known as the Arrot Building and covered the block at Coral and Taylor sts., in the upper section of the city, and was exclusively used for the manufacture of knitted and woollen goods. The loss will not exceed $50,000 and is fully insured.

At 1 o'clock this afternoon the Globe Shot Works, on Pemberton-st., above Mount Vernon, caught fire and caused a loss of $2,500. In the fire three tons of lead that had melted from the heat fell from the tower into the cellar, where it formed into a solid cake.

At 3 o'clock the Excelsior Electro Works were set on fire by children while playing with matches and sustained $400 damage.

LOSSES IN VARIOUS PLACES.

ROCKLAND, Me., Sept. 2.—The Knox and Lincoln Railroad station and freight house here were burned last night, together with a new passenger car costing $10,000, a baggage car, five box cars and a large quantity of freight. The buildings destroyed were valued at $5,000. The fire probably caught from a spark from a locomotive. The total loss is estimated at $30,000.

NEWBURG, N. Y., Sept. 2.—A barn near the summer house of Dr. T. B. Shelton, of New-York City, was burned this morning. The loss is $2,300; partially insured. The fire was of incendiary origin. A few days ago another barn on the same premises was burned.

NORFOLK, Va., Sept. 2.—One hundred thousand feet of lumber, valued at about $30,000, were burned this morning at the saw mill of Greenleaf, Johnson & Co.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM W. SHIPPEN.

William W. Shippen, president of the Hoboken Land and Improvement Company, died at his summer home at Seabright, N. J., at an early hour yesterday morning. He caught a severe cold in February, which developed into a dangerous attack of pneumonia. He partly recovered from this sickness and went with his family to Seabright, hoping that a change of air and rest from all business cares would rapidly restore his health. A few days ago he was again taken ill, this time with liver trouble, and his weakened system was not strong enough to overcome the effect of the disease. As soon as the news of his death reached Hoboken flags were put at half-mast on the building occupied by the Hoboken Land and Improvement Company and on the boats of the Hoboken Ferry.

Mr. Shippen was born in Bordentown, N. J., in 1827. He was being educated in the schools there when he received an appointment from the Congressman in his district as a naval cadet, and on passing a satisfactory examination was admitted to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. On his graduation from the academy in 1845 he left the Navy and accepted the position of civil engineer on the Camden and Amboy Railroad, which he held until requested to take the superintendency of the property of the Hoboken Land and Improvement Company. For a number of years he supervised the work of grading and levelling lands, and preparing them for sale, and then managed the disposal of them. He continued in that work until the death of Commodore Edward A. Stevens, the president of the company, in 1869, when he was selected to fill the vacancy. In the will of Commodore Stevens Mr. Shippen was named as one of the executors of the estate, and he has held that position ever since.

During the Civil War he was placed in command of the Naugatuck, a wooden vessel built by Commodore Stevens as an experiment in naval warfare. The boat was armed with three heavy Stevens guns and was sent to Hampton Roads to try to sink some of the boats belonging to the Rebel fleet. She ar