AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, 14th st., opposite Academy of Music—The Brothers Rizarelli. Matinée Wednesday and Saturday.

BUTLER'S GARDEN—Forty Thieves; or, "Striking Oil" in a "Family Jar." Matinée on Saturday.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, 23d st., between 5th and 6th aves.—Ponsa and Jubert. Matinée on Saturday.

WALLACK'S—Much Ado About Nothing.

THE TAMMANY—The Hidden Mariner; The Young Broach. Matinée on Saturday.

OLYMPIC THEATRE—Humpty Dumpty. Matinées at 1 o'clock, Wednesday and Saturday.

THEATRE FRANÇAIS—Geneviève de Brabant. Matinée on Saturday.

WAVERLEY THEATRE, 728 Broadway—Lucretia Borgia in 1, or Lucrezia Borgia. Matinée on Saturday.

WOOD'S MUSEUM—The Off Leave Man. Living and Well Attended.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Norma Opera. Faust.

BOWERY THEATRE—Jack Sheppard in the Snow. Dog of the Regiment. Matinée on Saturday.

The Sun.

"It Shines for All."

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 1869.

Terms of the Sun.

DAILY, delivered to all subscribers $6 00
DAILY, mailed, per year 6 00
Three copies to one address 16 00
Five copies to one address 26 00
Ten copies to one address 40 00
Twenty copies to one address 72 00
Fifty copies to one address 150 00
Additional copies, in Club packages, at Club rates.
Individual copies, 3 cents.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Business Notices, per line ..... 50 cents
Three lines (nonpareil) ..... 25 cents
Special Notices, per line ..... 50 cents
Business Notices, per line ..... 75 cents
Leaded Advertisements charged double the space occupied.

IN WEEKLY—Ten lines to a column.

THE SUN is served to subscribers at their homes, Brooklyn, the Metropolitan Towns, at 12 cents per week. Orders for the paper may be left at the SUN Office, Office of Messrs. Adams Express Co., or at any of the Branch Offices.

Breckinridge and the Democracy.

The Democratic party won its last national victory in 1856. The defeat which overwhelmed it four years later was due to its unconditional surrender to the principles, the purposes and the leadership of its extreme Southern members. For a long period previous to that time, it had alternately lost or won as it had submitted to or resisted the same baleful influences. From the bitter experience of the last ten years, one might suppose that it had educed wisdom enough to hereafter shun the rock on which it shivered its power and prestige.

Among the conspicuous chiefs of the rebellion who attained all their previous distinction and their consequent power for mischief from the partiality of the Democratic party, stands JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE. He was a quintuple traitor, for he proved false to the nation which had made him its Vice-President, to the Democracy who had loaded him with honors, to the South by not joining the Confederacy at its organization, to the nation by going into the rebellion at all after occupying a seat in the Federal Senate throughout one session after the war had commenced, and, finally, to his own State and to his professed principles of State rights, by drawing his sword against the Union and the Constitution while Kentucky maintained its allegiance to both.

The Democracy cannot hope to regain its hold upon the generation that witnessed the conflict of arms, unless it discards the leadership of such men. Its signal defeat in November was largely owing to the fact that such rebel officers as HAMPTON, FORREST, PRESTON, COBB, and WISE were allowed to dictate a vital portion of its platform of principles, and bear a leading part in the discussions of the canvass. The very names of these men are odious to a vast majority of the American people. They should have regarded it as a great stretch of generosity that the political organization which they had dragged to the verge of ruin was willing once more to admit them to membership within its fold. If they sincerely desired its success, they should have scrupulously abstained from every act which bore the faintest resemblance to an attempt to regain its leadership.

Since his return to this country, a portion of the Democracy of Kentucky are proposing to bring out Mr. BRECKINRIDGE as the party candidate for Governor of that State at the approaching election. Taking a sensible view of the extreme folly of this measure, that sagacious Democratic journal, the *Chicago Times*, thus discourses upon it:

"The Democratic party of the United States elected Breckinridge to the Vice-Presidency when he was about 35 years old. When he was a boy it loaded him with honor, and he employed the position it gave him to defeat Douglas, the regular Democratic candidate for the Presidency. *His ingratitude and treachery to the Democratic party were blacker crimes than his alliance with the Confederates.* If the party in Kentucky can overlook this, and make him Governor, it will show a large capacity for pardoning. The Democracy of the nation wash their hands of him."

While the Democracy of Kentucky will do well to heed the rebuke of the *Times*, their brethren throughout the entire Union cannot safely repudiate the general principle whereon its advice is based. They should compel conspicuous rebels to retire from the front and take their appropriate places on the back seats.

Public School Accommodations.

A Brooklyn reader of THE SUN sends us a communication, which we print in another place, respecting the insufficiency of the public school accommodations of his city. What he says is, we have no doubt, entirely true, and of New York as well as of Brooklyn. There is not room enough in the public schools of either community for the very class of children whom public schools could most especially benefit. We waste hundreds of thousands of dollars annually on an extravagant and unnecessary City College, and on Supplementary Courses, suitable only to the children of the wealthy, while the poor and the ragged, and the vast concourse of little ones who demand only the rudiments of knowledge, have to go unattended to.

We have so often before descanted on this subject that our remarks may seem tiresome. But this matter of our system of public education is too serious to be neglected. From purely benevolent and useful institutions, our public schools have got to be, in the main, luxuries for the rich; and, while all our taxpayers are alike compelled to contribute enormously to their support, comparatively a small portion enjoy their advantages. The officers of the Association for the Relief of the Poor say in their last annual report:

"In some localities where there is school room it appears that many children are rejected, because too ragged and filthy to associate with others. There are also densely crowded districts in the poorest portions of the city unsupplied with schools, where the children are allowed to grow up in such ignorance and vice as not only to unfit them for the duties of social life, but, as the police records show, to become in numerous instances a burden and nuisance to the community. Much, in short, as has been achieved by this excellent system of instruction, while it leaves one-fifth of those for whom it was designed, and who most need its aid, uncatered, it evidently does not fulfil its important mission."

Other authorities estimate the number of children in the city who are not able to attend school, from want of accommodation, at 40,000. While our Board of Education spends $3,000,000 a year, turning out twenty or thirty college graduates at a cost of $5,000 apiece, and a few hundreds of accomplished young ladies and gentlemen at nobody knows how much, the children of the masses are running neglected about the streets. The mischief would be still greater were it not for the efforts of benevolently disposed persons, most of them Catholics, who have supplied in a measure by their private charity, aided to some extent by the State, the schools required.

Our whole school system needs a thorough revision. We want to cut off the enormous expenses of its higher departments, and devote the money thus saved to extending the accommodations of the lower ones. As soon as there remains not a child in the city above ten years of age who cannot read, write, and cipher, then, and not till then, shall we have the right to consider the question of giving rich people's children a costly and elaborate education for nothing. The duty right before us is, first of all, to take care of those who cannot help themselves, and after that we will see about doing more.

Mr. Greeley and the British Mission.

The *Times* is astonished because Mr. GREELEY is angry at its nominating him for Postmaster-General in a Cabinet along with Messrs. JAY GOULD, C. S. SPENCER, and JOHN MORRISSEY, while he has shown no signs of anger at THE SUN'S constant advocacy of his appointment to the British mission.

If the *Times* were livelier in its power of apprehension, its astonishment would never have existed. The two journals discuss Mr. GREELEY'S claims to high office in an opposite spirit. The *Times* proposed his appointment to the Cabinet disrespectfully and in mere joke, and assigned to him colleagues with whom it knew perfectly well he would never serve. THE SUN, on the other hand, is altogether in earnest. It goes for him without reserve or disguise. And it can give first-rate reasons for its preference.

Let the *Times* follow our example. Let it urge upon the new Administration the duty of tendering to this eminent journalist the British mission, on the ground that, under present circumstances, there is no other man so well qualified for it, or who would be so warmly welcomed by every class of the British people. We warrant that such considerations, presented with the ability which characterizes the *Times*, will not provoke from Mr. GREELEY any expression of resentment. On the contrary, he will rather like it. Otherwise he would be less or more than a man.

Though several velocipede makers have [illegible] on each machine exacted by Mr. CALVIN WITTY, as the owner of the LALLEMANT patent, we learn that many others have taken legal advice on the subject, and have resolved not to pay. We are informed also that some of those who have taken licenses from Mr. WITTY are now determined to throw them up, and stand a prosecution if necessary.

It is said that when Mr. LALLEMANT originally applied for his patent, he did not pretend to have invented anything except the pivoted and weighted stirrups or pedals for the cranks. These were such as we are familiar with on velocipedes of the French pattern; but they are now generally discarded by American makers, who prefer the triangular movable stirrups invented by PICKERING. But while LALLEMANT did not pretend to be the inventor of anything more than these stirrups, his attorney who drew his specifications shrewdly included in them a claim to "a combination and arrangement of the two wheels provided with the treadles and guiding arms." By reference to the drawings and description of the patent, we find that the treadles which he speaks of are merely the weighted stirrups and not the cranks. As we have said, the combination of these stirrups with the rest of the machine is apparently all that LALLEMANT intended to get a patent for. Besides, it is clear that a patent for a combination can only cover what is new in it at the date of its issue; and as all parts of the velocipede except these peculiar stirrups were known here prior to the date of LALLEMANT'S patent, the probability would seem to be that those manufacturers who refuse to pay Mr. WITTY will be found in the end to have the right of it. Any way, the question will afford the material for one of the most interesting lawsuits of the day, which will be fully and faithfully reported in THE SUN, that shines for all.

The same difficulty does not exist in regard to the patents of the Messrs. HANTON, who have just sent out notice to velocipede makers to come up to the captain's office and settle. Their patents include devices that are essential to almost every kind of velocipede, and some kinds use three or four of them. They are the inventors of the forked perch or reach, the adjustable saddle, the adjustable cranks, the shield for the fore wheel, and the brake mechanism on the fore wheel; and we presume there can be no question of the validity of their patents. Their circular states that they wish to deal amicably with manufacturers, and as their ideas seem to be moderate and reasonable, we presume they will meet with much better luck than Mr. WITTY has done. His patent had an uncertain appearance from the first, but we presume he would have fared better with it if he had not been too grasping.

A correspondent, in whom we have great confidence, writes us from Washington that the appointment of the Hon. COLUMBUS DELANO as Commissioner of Internal Revenue is fixed beyond the possibility of doubt. We are very glad to know it. Mr. DELANO is one of the fittest men in the country for that difficult office. He has had an unusual experience in public affairs as a lawyer, banker, and legislator. To integrity and capacity he adds remarkable executive power and agreeable manners. The selection of such a man for such a place is a new proof of the sagacity with which Gen. GRANT knows how to choose his subordinate officers.

One of the worthiest and most interesting charities of this city is the Samaritan Home for the Aged, whose houses are at 263 and 259 West Thirty-seventh street. It receives respectable old men and women who are not able to provide for themselves. The payment of $250 will secure a home for life for any aged person who is not found objectionable on three months' trial. If the applicant cannot be retained, the money is returned to the donor, with the deduction of $2 a week for board during the time he has been in the Home. The institution is supported by the donations of the benevolent, and we trust that they will be given in abundance. The President of the Association of ladies by whom it is conducted is Mrs. JOHN MCVICKAR, 38 East Twenty-fifth street, and the Secretary Mrs. GEORGE CURTIS, 27 Washington place.

Where is Major-Gen. F. P. BLAIR, Jr.? Probably in Washington looking for Gen. GRANT to begin his long predicted military revolution. Before that happens, however, we fear there will be another little revolution by which the gallant General will be revolved out of his nice place as Commissioner of the Pacific Railroad.

Another light of the rebellion has gone out. The *Charleston Mercury* has ceased to be published. The fact is announced by Mr. R. B. RHETT, Jr., its editor and proprietor. The reason is that it doesn't pay. It hasn't business enough to meet its expenses. People don't want such a newspaper, and the paper has to stop. Mr. RHETT sees in the event, however, only the operation of an immense oppression. His paper is choked in "the tangled and bloody strands of a deceitful, hostile despotism;" and the "voice which for fifty years has mingled in the counsels of the imperiled South is hushed." But he doesn't give it up so. There is, he thinks, still a glorious future of independence in store for the South. He is sure of it, and accordingly, "hoping, praying, expecting the bright coming of her final deliverance," he takes his "place among her ruined children."

It is a good sign for the South that Mr. RHETT no longer finds his newspaper a profitable concern. He is a man of perfect honesty, first-rate courage, and a chivalric patriotism; but he is deadfully mistaken, and has done his country, and especially his native State, as much mischief as he could. That he has also ruined himself proves both his sincerity and his utter want of common sense. We respect his character, but we detest his action. That he is obliged to seek some less public and less influential sphere of labor is a cause for congratulation. We trust he will be successful in his new undertaking, unless it should happen to be treasonable.

Our able Democratic contemporary the *World* carefully contradicts a report of a dinner to JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE lately published, as it says, in "a Radical journal of this city." What journal this may be, whether the *Herald*, the *Tribune*, *Pomeroy's Democrat*, the *Evening Post*, or the *Independent*, it is impossible to tell; but if it be one of these, or some other, we trust that as soon as the *World's* contradiction is brought to its knowledge, it will make the proper correction.

Our readers will notice that the *World* virtually admits that the account of this celebrated dinner which appeared in THE SUN was accurate.

The famous celebration in honor of the Roman god Mercury in this city, in which, according to the Rev. SAMUEL OSGOOD, D. D., several Christian clergymen took part, and two pronounced discourses, is thus disrespectfully described in one of the provincial journals:

"A shoddy New Yorker wanted to give a unique party the other night, and invested each guest as he came in with a wreath upon the neck and a crown of flowers. All submitted to this except the old lawyer CHARLES O'CONOR, who, believing that beauty unadorned is adorned the most, refused to submit to the floral imposition."

This is incorrect in several particulars. It was not a shoddy New Yorker who gave the party, but a gentleman of the most respectable Knickerbocker aristocracy. The visitors did not have a wreath of flowers fastened to their necks, but to their brows only, while their bosoms were decorated with goblen harps. And Mr. O'CONOR did not decline to assume these ornaments from any fear that they would diminish his good looks, [illegible] is a very noble type of intellectual beauty, we are confident he thinks very little of it. He declined to wear the wreath and the harp simply because he is not fond of masquerading, that is all.

Thousands of our citizens, old and young, male and female, are compelled to visit the Post Office every day in the year. Why is it that the sidewalks around that venerable and ghostly pile are usually covered with snow, slush, and mud long after all others in the city, in obedience to a municipal ordinance, have been cleaned?

The world is certainly moving. An English Judge has just unseated a member of Parliament, because one of his supporters, an employing manufacturer, had intimidated his hands by threats of dismission into voting for him. It was not shown that the member had practised the intimidation himself, but it was held to be enough that he had authorized the manufacturer to canvass the men on his behalf. English lords and mill owners have so long been accustomed to dictate to their tenants and employees how they shall vote, that this decision must fall among them like thunder from a clear sky.

Public School Accommodations.

To the Editor of The Sun.

SIR:—I am glad to say that your rays reach my home, though it is not in your city. Brooklyn is so closely identified with New York, that anything that is of interest in one of the two cities, is of interest to both. I want to say a word about the City College, or rather the principle of having such an institution at the public charge. If we, the common people, can afford to maintain such an institution properly conducted, and not thereby neglect any other and more important part of the public education, let us have it, for we cannot educate our children or ourselves too much. But as in maintaining the bodies of the common people, the first consideration is a proper supply of solid, wholesome food, rather than dainties, so in educating the people, the first thing is a bountiful supply of primary schools. Have we got them in New York or Brooklyn?

You know, and everybody knows that all the primary schools of both cities are overcrowded, and that hundreds are refused admittance in almost every school, if not every one. But you may say, let us have facts. Here they are. My boy has not been able to obtain admittance into a public school since I removed to Brooklyn last June. I reside in the Seventh Ward, and have made application to the following schools: Walworth street, Classon avenue, Adelphi street, and Bedford avenue, and the answer every time is that there is not even standing room in the primary department.

Now, what I want to get at is, that I don't think we have any right to spend a cent of the public money for a college, until *all* can learn the rudiments that want to. You offer your columns freely to the other side of this question, but there is—while the facts are as they are—no inducement to take it. So your offer goes begging. A READER.

Light for the Newsdealers.

To the Editor of The Sun.

SIR: Permit me to ask your attention to our want of your excellent paper, and also that of many of my neighbors. I reside in the Ninth avenue, between Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth streets. Leaving my house at about half-past 8 o'clock A. M., I am frequently compelled to go to your publication office for a paper, after applying in vain to a dozen or more newsdealers for it. Is there no way to relieve us? We want no other paper.

Yours truly, A. W.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26, 1869.

Overhauled by a Spanish Man-of-War.

The schooner Wide Awake, of Chatham, Mass., which arrived yesterday, from Port Sal, Honduras, reports that on the 19th of February, off Sand key, she was hove to during the night by a Spanish man-of-war. After sending an officer on board to examine the papers, the Spaniard informed Capt. Wing that they were on the lookout for a small steamer said to be engaged in carrying arms to the insurgents from some of the Southern ports.

THEATRICAL DINNER.—The third of a series of theatrical dinners was given in the *Café des Dames*, Tammany, last evening. About thirty ladies and gentlemen were present. Mr. Harry Palmer took the head of the table. The reunion was a very pleasant one. Among the guests were Messrs. Jarrett, Henry B. Farnie, Henderson, W. Cook, George Butler, Miss Belle Land, and others.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Mormonism in New York.

What is "H. G." among the Mormons?—The Saints East of the Mississippi.

Mormonism has always been considered an institution of Utah—an isolated system, inhabiting a part of the territory of the United States, but in no wise belonging to this great nation. It was away off, out of reach, troubling no one, and therefore our people have been willing to let it alone. Brigham Young was its head and front, and the system was responsible to him, and he to nobody. Thus it has been left to itself and well has it taken advantage of its opportunity. Its President is a man of rare abilities, and fully comprehending the situation, he has improved his chance to establish himself and his people so firmly that they may not be removed without trouble. His agents have gone literally into all the world, preaching his absurdly audacious doctrines, and gathering in converts by thousands and tens of thousands, and stealthily instilling into their minds the notion that Utah is the "Zion of the Lord." Churches have been established everywhere to spread this curious form of superstition and fraud, and convert such as can be brought under its influences. All through the United States, and in Europe, these so-called churches have been organized, and large congregations gathered. These are governed by a thoroughly centralized machinery, composed of leaders sent out by Brigham Young himself.

MORMON CHURCHES AMONG THE GENTILES.

It may not be generally known that in this city, in Williamsburgh, Newark, Portsmouth, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Albany, Hyde Park, Cohoes, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Louisville, and many other places, Mormon churches are established and services are held precisely as are the services of Christian churches. Yet such is the case, and many, if not all of these so-called churches are well attended, and embrace large and flourishing congregations.

A MORMON MEETING IN WILLIAMSBURGH.

A reporter of THE SUN attended the Mormon meeting in Williamsburgh last Sunday, on which occasion Elder Miles, styling himself "President of the Eastern Nation," preached. The meeting was held in a hall at 145 Grand street, occupied during the week by the Grand Army of the Republic. This was a gathering of the Williamsburgh Branch, as they call themselves. Elder Miles was assisted in the services by four elders of lesser degree. The congregation was made up of about one hundred individuals, all told, of both sexes. The males are working people of respectable appearance, apparently foreigners from the British isles. The women were comely, many being young, and none at all repulsive. The unusual number of babies in the congregation was noticeable. The congregation was eminently orderly, and would, in its composition, compare favorably with the average of the eccentric gatherings of the day.

THE LITTLE ELDER AND THE CHOIR.

The services were introduced by a little elder in frowzy pantaloons, threadbare coat, and linen of doubtful color, who rose and proclaimed, as if in great haste to get through, "We'll commence the service by singing the 'im on hightty-third page." The choir were seated around a table at the right of the pulpit. The occasion being the administration of the sacraments, during the singing one of the elders made a skirmish through the congregation for deacons to distribute the elements. Two were found, and escorted to chairs in front of the pulpit, one on elder side of a small card table, on which was spread a clean white cloth, and on the cloth two common white plates, the one serving as a cover to the other, two glass goblets, and a white china pitcher.

THE BREAD.

The two deacons separated the plates, disclosing two slices of very matter-of-fact bread, which was duly crumbled up and divided separately half on each of the plates. This done and the hymn finished, a tall elder, with green breeches, one eye, and very soupy sanctocks, arose and offered the prayer of consecration as follows:

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION.

"O God, the Eternal Father, we ask Thee, in the name of Thy son Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this bread to the souls of all those who partake of it, that they may eat in remembrance of the body of Thy Son, and witness unto Thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they are willing to take upon them and keep His Commandments, which He has given them, that they may always have His Spirit to be with them. Amen."

HOW THE BREAD WAS PARTAKEN.

The two deacons then passed the bread, first to the elders and then to the congregation, the choir meantime singing a hymn of their own selection. It was a noticeable incident of this ceremony that all partook of the bread, eating it very much as a choice morsel at a banquet is discussed, no one deeming it necessary to assume any devotional posture. The babies had pieces forced into their mouths by their fond parents. The choir stopped singing at the right moment to get its share, and finally the two deacons, with creditable politeness, interchanged their offerings and sat down to masticate their respective morsels.

WINE, GIN, OR WATER?

This ceremony ended, the two goblets were filled from the pitcher with a liquid that might have been Holland gin, Wolf's Aromatic Schiedam Schnapps, or water. The elder subsequently said it was water, and our reporter feels bound to believe him, notwithstanding the Book of Mormon says that wine shall be used. After the goblets had been filled, another elder arose to offer the consecrating prayer.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE CUP.

This problematical element was dispensed in the same manner as the bread, save that a young man, who may be supposed to be a sub-deacon, carried the pitcher to replenish the goblets, should the supply be exhausted. On the return the two deacons courteously helped each other as before, leaving the juvenile sub-deacon unprovided for. This omission caused a palpable snicker throughout the congregation, the members of which seemed to have an eye to the ludicrous. The juvenile stood waiting until his patience was exhausted, then nudged one of the deacons and pointed to one of the goblets that had been replaced on the table. The deacon saw the point, smiled, rose, bowed an apology, and offered the glass, of which the young man partook freely, retiring with apparent satisfaction. After another hymn President Miles arose to deliver his discourse.

PRESIDENT MILES.

The President borders well on to threescore years. He dates his connection with Mormonism back to early days. For upwards of a quarter of a century he has watched over the Saints scattered among the gentiles east of the Mississippi river, and supported himself by making paint brushes. Whether he excels as a prophet or brush maker is not known. He is about five feet ten inches high; well built, though not portly; his face is clearly shaven; his rather sparse iron-gray locks are combed carefully forward; a little negligent in the matter of linen; wears a black frock coat, a black cloth vest, and striped pantaloons.

A MORMON DISCOURSE.

The President did not announce any text, although provided with a ponderous Bible and the Book of Mormon in addition. His discourse, however, was doctrinal, the fundamental idea being suggested by the sacrament just administered. He said it was customary for the Mormons to celebrate the Lord's supper every Sunday, which he considered an evidence of their greater love for Christ and devotion to his service over other religionists, who only partook of the sacrament at longer intervals. He spoke of the use of water instead of wine as the practice of Mormons, justified by revelations received by them, and sanctioned by the Book of Mormon. On this point there is ground for skepticism, inasmuch as our reporter invested a dollar and a half in a copy of this Mormon authority, and finds in it no warrant for the use of anything but bread and *wine*. Moreover, the elder consecrated it as wine. The President struck out with the bold proposition that the Almighty was in close and constant communication with the Saints, and enlightened them as to His will from time to time, as circumstances changed, so that they were not bound down to a code of laws and a system of polity established ages ago, but could adapt themselves to the chances of the times, the progress of the age, the country in which they were, and all the varied circumstances by which they might be surrounded.

MUSIC AGAIN—AN ASTONISHING SOLO.

At the close of the discourse another hymn was sung, in which the little gray-headed old leader treated the congregation to a remarkable solo, the full strength of the choir coming in on the chorus. In the absence of any instrumental accompaniment, the solo called forth all the powers of the old man's lungs, particularly on the higher notes, with which it abounded, occasionally taking the performer seemingly off his feet. Whether he fully reached the highest notes is not known, but he certainly reached the ultimate of his powers, and from the sanguinary flood that suffused his face, the effort would seem to have threatened all the blood vessels of his body. During the singing the contributions of the congregation were asked, both Saints and sinners, Mormons and Gentiles being impartially appealed to.

IS H. G. A MORMON?

Before dismissing the congregation one of the elders announced that the "H. G.s," would meet immediately after the close of the service. An urgent request of the brethren for the meaning of this enthusiastic appellation was met with the vague reply that it was one of the societies of the church. It could not be ascertained whether it took its name from a well-known newspaper authority that is so designated, though the dialect season to satisfy curiosity on that point. It was manifest record the notion that it had that origin. This incident will render the query pertinent: "Is H. G. a Mormon?"

EXTENT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MORMONS.

After the dismissal of the congregation the writer entered into conversation with President Miles, and gathered some interesting facts from him. Mr. Miles is President of the Eastern nation—that is, of all Mormons east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio. There is also a Southern nation, with headquarters and a President at St. Louis. The nation is subdivided into conferences; these again into districts, and the districts into branches. A branch is a congregation. The New York branch meets in East Twenty-sixth street, and numbers about one hundred and fifty families. The Williamsburgh branch meets at 145 Grand street, and includes about fifty families. Elders from abroad arriving here report to this branch, and remain until arrangements are perfected for continuing their journey to Zion. The branches hold service every Sunday, usually three times—morning, afternoon, and evening. The sacrament is always administered in the afternoon. The church is a democracy, is a miniature nation in its organization and government. It is governed by an elder and council of elders. Then there is a grand council chosen from the congregation, whose authority is greater than that of the elder. The church has the same form of organization. So also with the conference and nation, and finally, the whole Mormon people, of which Brigham Young is President, with a council of advisers, but subject to a grand council which may overrule him, but never does.

THE NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

The last meeting of the New York Conference was held in Williamsburgh, and was attended by delegates from New York, Newark, Portsmouth, N. H., Philadelphia, Hyde Park, and Cohoes. Reports were made from all these places, showing that the branches were in good condition, and many people were being added by baptism, and that they were renting halls to preach in, and doing all they could to gain converts. Elder Clawson came on from Utah to attend that meeting. There were present, 5 seventies, 4 high priests, 41 elders, 19 priests, 17 teachers, and 36 deacons—an array that shows something of the efforts made by these people at proselyting.

THE BRIGHAMITES VS. THE JOSEPHITES.

The sect of Josephites differ from the Brighamites simply on the question of polygamy. Joseph Smith thought that no man should have more than one wife, and the Book of Mormon distinctly enunciates that rule. In the second chapter of the book of Jacob it says:

Wherefore, my brethren, hear me. "Hearken unto the word of the Lord, for there shall not any man among you have more than one wife; and let him have no concubines; for I, the Lord God, delighteth in the chastity of women.

Despite this plain teaching, Brigham Young professes to have later revelations sanctioning polygamy, and makes his credulous followers believe him.

THE PERSECUTED HOBOKEN METHODISTS.

Services Yesterday—The Wesleyans Worshipping God in the Martha Institute—Result of the Disgraceful Action of the Hoboken Politicians.

The Methodist people of Hoboken, who were ejected from their church by the action of the Common Council of that city, held service yesterday morning and evening in the hall of the Martha Institute, which was kindly tendered by the Rev. Mr. Molen, its principal. The Rev. Mr. Thompson preached in the morning, and in the evening the regular pastor, the Rev. Mr. Ellison, conducted the service, which was much like the old-fashioned Methodist religion—plain, substantial, true, and to the point, there being few hymn books and no choir or music.

The pastor delivered an earnest and impressive prayer. He said that the trials and afflictions that beset them would bind them closer together, that they might have but one mind, one interest, and one common purpose to do good and stand by the Church. He prayed especially for those that persecute the Church.

New arrangements were made for the future meetings of the classes, most of which will be held at the leaders' houses, after which the minister began that good old tune,

"Come, thou fount of every blessing,"

[illegible] came forward with an old-fashioned looking Bible and selected his text from the 50th chapter of Genesis, 20th and 21st verse, as follows:

"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but God meant it unto good*, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

"Now therefore fear ye not; I will nourish you and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them."

He said it had been exceedingly difficult to select an appropriate text for this evening. This one, however, seemed to him proper, and from it he would, with the providence of God, draw such lesson as would suit the occasion. He alluded to the manner in which Joseph was sold by his brothers for thirty pieces of silver, because they feared that he would become greater than they. But men sometimes planned and tried to execute more than they were able to perform. It has always been so, even in our times. The men who planned and laid out the rebellion, and the efforts put forth to bring about success to establish a republic, the corner stone of which would be the bondage of men, were prevented in their attempts by the intervention of the hand of God. Men and communities sometimes rise up against the truth. In France they tried the experiment. They drove out the priesthood. It was an infidel on the part of France. They said the dead are dead for all ages. It nearly brought France to ruin, and Napoleon said if they had no religion, they must make one up, as France could not live without it. The Jews had said, if we can only get rid of Christ we will put him out of the minds of the people, and they planned and held councils. They took him into courts. They bribed the judges, and everything looked fair. He was put to death, and between two thieves. They could not go much further, and then they said: This will be an end of it. They crucified him, and the devils or hell rejoiced, but little did they see that such a necessary thing to open the eyes of all the world, and make known the kingdom and the blessed words of the Saviour and Lord, and the more the word has been persecuted the greater it has prospered. It has gone forth to every part of the earth. The blood of the martyr has been the seed of the Church.

Come down to our time; when the men at Oxford began to preach the gospel of Jesus, they were besieged the moment they stepped outside. They were the objects of persecution—they were stoned, clubbed, and beaten, and men who called themselves judges of the peace, and men who ruled the towns and cities, said it was right and sanctioned this action, but it did not stop preaching. Then very throughs thrashed out more truth. They were locked out of churches, but they went into valleys and on the hills, asserting the truth and its power, and fighting their way inch by inch despite the judges and the Common Council.

In conclusion, he said God rules the world, notwithstanding the machinations of men. They might be locked out and persecution, but he felt that "God meant it unto good."

The Sermon to the Police.

The special service for the Metropolitan Police in Grace Chapel, yesterday afternoon, was attended by a number of the force, who were in civilian attire. The Rev. Walter Delafield, after reading the usual Episcopal service, preached from St. Luke, xxiv. 47, "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in Christ's name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." The speaker began by speaking of the reason why Jerusalem was selected by Christ as the central point for the diffusion of His doctrines instead of his birthplace, Rome, Athens, or some greater city, which he ascribed to the fact of its being the sacred city of the Jews. The preacher next discussed the commercial, intellectual, and religious influence of cities, with illustrations from Rome, London, the cities of the great West, and New York. The sanity of the latter, he said, devolves upon the clergy and the police, the first of whom enforce christianity by precepts, and the second morality in practice. He paid a high tribute to the devotion and faithfulness of the police, and spoke of their arduous duties and their excellent record, especially during the draft riots. He alluded to the dangers which constantly beset them, the worst of which is the temptation to look on the worst side of human nature, and in conclusion he urged them not to let their abhorrence of crime induce them to cherish uncharitable feelings toward the criminal classes.

Court of Appeals.

WHAT IS THEFT?—Judge Mason ordered a new trial in the case of a prisoner who had been sentenced by Recorder Hackett to serve five years in State Prison. After the passing of sentence in the Court of General Sessions, the prisoner's counsel applied for a writ of error, complaining that the Recorder had erred in a part of his charge to the jury, as follows: "As matter of law I charge you that it is not necessary, in order to find a verdict of guilty, that the felonious intent existed at the time of taking the watch and money, but it will be sufficient if such intent existed at the time the prisoner actually converted the same to his own use." This charge, says Judge Mason, cannot be sustained. The charge must be construed with reference to the case before the Court, which certainly was one where the jury might have found that the prisoner did not, when he took the watch and the money, intend to steal them from Hafner. Hafner was drunk and wholly incapable of taking any care of them himself, and the same was taken in the presence of four respectable persons whose attention he called to it, and asked them to see how much money there was, that Hafner might not claim any more of him than he took. The point on which the Court below had convicted the prisoner was that he subsequently used Hafner's property for his own benefit.

THE NEWBURYPORT FIRE-BUG.

Extraordinary Arrest—The Incendiary of Fifty Fires Captured—A Wealthy Man with a Passion for Burning Houses.

From the Milwaukee Wisconsin.

On Sunday Capt. W. H. Fitts, of the police force of Newburyport, Mass., passed through this city, having in charge a prisoner named Leonard Choat, whom he was taking home. Choat was arrested about fifty miles north of Minneapolis, in Minnesota, and his history is one of the most singular that was ever written. If written out in full it would make a novel of no mean size, and certainly of a most sensational character. The details of this history we have from Capt. Fitts.

THE PRISONER CHOAT,

is a man about thirty-five years of age, and is a native of Newburyport. His father was, before his death, largely engaged in ship building, and the family was wealthy and highly respected. As a boy the prisoner was not smart, and although he worked in the father's establishment, he was a very poor workman, and was allowed to have his way in almost every particular. He is an inoffensive looking man—one of those who make few acquaintances. He is now, and was known by every person in Newburyport. He was respected by all, on account of his family—was never until lately believed to be in any way virious, and even now the fact of crime being charged upon him, will create a wide spread sensation at home.

INCENDIARISM.

To give the sketch we are now writing, it will be necessary to glance at the city of Newburyport. Some twenty years ago that quiet town commenced to have incendiary fires. They commenced with wooden buildings, old and unoccupied, and barns. The fires were usually set in placing a burning candle in a barrel of shavings. The candle would burn down to the shavings about midnight, and then the fire would take place. The winter referred to, there were several such fires, and there was much wonder who the incendiary could be.

MORE SERIOUS.

In the winter of 1861 a church was burned in Newburyport. This created some wonder, but it was considered that the fire was caused by carelessness on the part of the sexton. Other buildings were burned during the winter, and it was understood that the "old man," as the unknown incendiary was called, was about.

In 1862 another church was burned, and a few nights after a third was set on fire, but extinguished. Then the timid and quiet people of the venerable old town of Newburyport began to get excited, and as the days went by and fires became frequent, and were not confined to poor and almost worthless buildings, but extended to manufacturing establishments, houses, and stores, and even hotels, that excitement grew intense. There were no fires in the summer, but each winter meetings were held. The police endeavored in every way possible to find the "old man," but they were unsuccessful, and the fires continued. The Mayor, the city authorities and the police offered rewards for evidence sufficient to convict an incendiary, and the citizens added to these rewards until the sum of $10,000 was offered, and as the excitement went on, this sum was offered for a man with a peculiar wooden box. This box will be explained below.

THE NUMBER OF FIRES.

Each winter the number of fires became known to be the work of incendiarism increased. In the two years from November 27, 1867, to January last, there were twenty-one fires believed to have been set by the same person.

THE WOODEN BOX.

All these fires were set in one way. A rough wooden box, always twelve by four inches, was made, and contained in the bottom shavings saturated with kerosene in large quantities. In a block a candle was fixed, about five inches in length. The box would be left in or about a building that was to be burned, in the early part of the evening. By 12 o'clock at night the candle would have burned down to the shavings, set them on fire, and the building would go. Capt. Fitts has no less than nine of these boxes in his possession. Some of them are not burned in the least, others are partially consumed, and all show conclusively that they were made by the same tinning hand, and with the same bungling tools. Whoever the "old man" was, he was evidently fond of being

A CORRESPONDENT.

At the end of each winter the police authorities of Newburyport have received an anonymous letter, detailing in full the particulars of every fire and telling how they were set. In every case circumstances have corroborated the matter contained in the letter. Some of them said the fires were done to awaken the sleepy old town, and others that they were done for amusement. Even with these letters, the boxes found, and the aid of many special police men, the authorities were for years unable to obtain a clue to the mystery, and the "old man" became a great bugbear to Newburyport.

SUSPICIONS.

About the last of December—about two months ago—Fitts had his suspicions directed to the prisoner referred to above, Leonard Choat. He was a man well off, and the last man one would suppose would be engaged in such work. Detectives on the track of the man for a few days gave up and declared they were on the wrong track, but the captain, with Yankee pluck, determined to see it to the end, and watched himself. The result so far exceeded his expectations that he had already made up his mind to arrest Choat, when that worthy suddenly left Newburyport for parts unknown. Fourteen years ago he went up into Minnesota, and prompted each hundred [illegible] person decided which was his way to travel. By intercepting correspondence, Choat was found on his farm at Lilly Pond, Wright county, and was soon in irons and on his way back to Massachusetts.

At Lilly Pond Choat had taken a contract for getting out railroad ties, and was busily engaged in the work when found. Upon being arrested, he asked what it was for, and when the officer proposed to read to him the warrant, Choat said, "Oh, no, never mind; I will go with you."

EVIDENCE AGAINST CHOAT.

We are not at liberty to give the evidence which Capt. Fitts has accumulated against Choat. It is sufficient to say that it leaves no question whatever of his guilt, and that he has burned three churches, and attempted the destruction of two more, one hotel, several manufacturing establishments and houses, stores and barns, numbering over one hundred.

WHY HE DID IT.

This is the greatest mystery of all. Choat was well off and there is no evidence whatever of robbery. More than this a manufactory left by his father he burned, after it was sold, but before the papers were delivered, thus inflicting a severe loss upon himself. More, he burned over $50,000 worth of property belonging to his father, and a portion of which would have fallen to him. He also burned much property belonging to his uncle, which he would have inherited. Neither was it from motives of reven