The Sun.

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THE OLD WORLD'S NEWS.

THE SPANISH INSURGENTS FIRING THE CITY OF SEVILLE.

The Fires Put Out and the Insurrection Suppressed. The City of Almeria Attacked by the Insurgent Fleet—A Desperate and Successful Resistance.

MADRID, July 31.—A despatch has been received from Seville announcing that the insurgents have set fire to that city in four different places by means of petroleum.

A later despatch has been received at the Ministry of War announcing that the insurrection in Seville has been suppressed, and that the city is now occupied by the Government troops. The fires which were started by the insurgents were extinguished.

ALMERIA ATTACKED BY THE INSURGENT FLEET.

The refusal of the authorities of Almeria to comply with the demand of Gen. Contreras for a contribution of 500 pesetas, was followed by an attack upon that city by the insurgent fleet. After two hours' firing the insurrectionists made an attempt to disembark but were repulsed by the national forces and compelled to retreat to their vessels. The women and children left Almeria before the commencement of the attack, and the town is now occupied only by the men, who are determined to maintain a desperate resistance against the assaults of the insurgents.

The Cortes have adopted a resolution thanking the troops at Almeria for their gallantry in the defence against the attack of the insurgents. French property in Almeria is in great danger, and the French authorities will appeal to their respective governments for protection.

SEIZURE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY.

The revolutionary junta in Granada has issued a decree directing the seizure of the property belonging to the State, including churches, convents, and bell foundries, the latter in order to obtain metal to coin into currency.

The insurgent junta at Seville has also issued a decree ordering a reduction of fifty per cent in leases and rents of the general community, and a similar reduction in the necessaries of life, closing the factories, and making a division among the people of uncultivated lands.

A NEW LOAN.

The Cortes has resolved to proceed immediately with the consideration of bills providing for a new loan, the national armament, and the suppression of the right of pardon by the President.

The civil Governor of Barcelona has seized a newspaper in that city for endeavoring to incite a mutiny among the national troops stationed there.

The radicals repudiate the pretensions of Marshal Serrano to be a friend of the public.

The insurgents at Cartagena attempted to fit out the frigates Mendez Pinto and Fernando el Catolico to assist the vessels engaged in the attack upon Almeria, but found their supply of coal to be insufficient.

The insurgent Government at Cartagena has made an effort to place a loan in London, but failed to find a purchaser.

Perrad was in command of the insurgents who endeavored to destroy the city of Seville by fire this morning.

THE ATTACK ON ALMERIA RENEWED.

In the Cortes to-day Gen. Gonzalez, Minister of War, read a despatch announcing that the insurgents had recommenced firing upon the city of Almeria. This afternoon the insurgent projectiles demolished the house occupied by the German Consulate, notwithstanding the Consular flag was flying over the building.

At Alicante to-day the deputies of Cartagena surprised the garrison of Orihuela in the province of Alicante, captured that town and are now marching upon the city of Alicante.

The insurgents in Valencia are reported as becoming more discouraged. Gen. Martinez anticipates an easy victory over them.

Latterly the deputies of the Left protested against the proposed vote of thanks to the citizens of Almeria for their devotion to the republic.

Angry exclamations from the members of the majority followed the protest.

Señor Quintero made a speech, in which he defended the proceedings of the insurgents.

The members of the majority again protested against the course of the Deputies of the Left. A passionate debate followed, attended by a scene of great confusion in the Chamber.

LISBON, July 31.—The Spanish frigate Villa Madrid, at Cadiz, joined the insurgents to-day and opened fire upon the arsenal.

BAYONNE, July 31.—Don Carlos has entered Biscay.

The Valencia Insurgents Refuse to Surrender.

MADRID, July 31.—The insurgents in Valencia still refuse to surrender, and the republican troops resumed the bombardment of that city last night.

The citizens of Alicante, fearing an attack from the insurgents, have made urgent application to the Madrid Government for reinforcements.

A second conference between Señor Polanco, Colonial Minister, and the Deputies from Porto Rico has been fixed for Monday next to devise the framework of a bill for the abolition of slavery in the Antilles.

Opposition to the Proposed Increase of the Duke of Edinburgh's Allowance.

LONDON, July 31.—Mr. Bradlaugh has issued a call for a meeting in Hyde Park on Sunday next, to protest against an increase in the allowance of the Duke of Edinburgh on the occasion of his marriage. Demonstrations in opposition to the proposed increase in the Duke's allowance were made yesterday in Nottingham, Birmingham, and other places in England.

In the House of Commons to-day, shortly after the opening of the session, Mr. Gladstone stated that the business of the House was so far advanced as to warrant the hope that its session would be prorogued on Tuesday next.

The bill granting an annuity of £25,000 to the Duke of Edinburgh upon his approaching marriage with the Princess Marie Alexandrovna came up on its second reading.

Mr. P. A. Taylor, member for Leicester, moved that the second reading of the bill be postponed for six months from this date. He spoke at great length in support of his motion. In the course of his speech he protested against frequent applications by the Crown for grants of annuities to the Royal children. He stated that such applications place the Queen in an unfavorable and unsatisfactory light before the public. He thought that if the civil list was sufficient for the maintenance of the Royal household the Crown would surrender to the public treasury the immense private property now held by it. He held that, if her private property be retained by the Queen, there can be no necessity for the appropriation provided for in this bill. He stated that the whole management of the civil list naturally gives rise to numerous grave suspicions on the part of the public, by reason of the secrecy with which it is invested. He also said that the people of Great Britain were not interested in the proposed marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh; and, besides that, the latter received an ample allowance now, wrung as it is from a reluctant and indignant people.

Mr. George Anderson, member for Glasgow, seconded the motion to postpone. He declared that the proposal contained in the bill was disgraceful.

Rt. Hon. Edward P. Bouverie, member for Kilmarnock, and Mr. John Sidney North, member for Oxfordshire, spoke in opposition to the postponement of the second reading of the bill.

Mr. Gladstone regretted the tone of the discussion which had taken place. He denied that the Government had maintained any secrecy touching the management of the Crown property. The civil list, he said, was never intended to provide for the portioning of the royal children. Parliament must even adopt the course at present proposed and as pursued with regard to three of the royal children already married, or provide for an increased civil list. He upheld the proposition contained in the bill as it gave to Parliament the control of the conduct of the crown and of the royal family.

The motion to postpone was lost, and the bill was passed on its second reading by a vote of 162 ayes to 18 nays.

The Great Race for the Goodwood Cup.

LONDON, July 31.—The great race of the Goodwood meeting, the run for the Goodwood Cup, took place to-day, and was won by Flageolet. Favonius came in second, and Cremorne third. Neither horses ran. The betting at the start was 6 to 4 on the field against Flageolet, 5 to 4 on the field against Favonius, and 4 to 1 against Cremorne. The following is the summary:

The Goodwood Cup, value 300 sovereigns, added to a subscription of 20 sovereigns each, half forfeit; two miles and a half.
Mr. T. Lombard's ch. c. Flageolet, by Plutus out of Ida Favorite, 3 years old 1
Baron Rothschild's ch. h. Favonius, by Parmesan out of Zephyr, 5 years old 2
Mr. Savile's b. c. Cremorne, by Parmesan out of Rigolboche, 4 years old 3

Ethelbert S. Mills's Will.

The will of Ethelbert S. Mills, late President of the Brooklyn Trust Company, who was drowned at Coney Island on the 15th inst., was yesterday admitted to probate by Surrogate Veeder. There was no appearance in opposition. Letters testamentary were duly granted to Thomas S. Mills, eldest son, and one of the executors named in the will, who was present and qualified as such executor. M. T. Hodman and E. T. Gambard, the subscribing witnesses to the will, were examined as to its execution. By the terms of the will all of the property, both real and personal, goes to his widow, her heirs and assigns for ever.

THE VIRGINIA RADICALS.

Col. R. W. Hughes Nominated for Governor and C. P. Ramsdell for Lieutenant-Governor—Grant's Administration Endorsed.

LYNCHBURG, July 31.—In the Republican Convention this morning, about 2 o'clock, a vote was arrived at for Lieutenant-Governor, and C. P. Ramsdell, of Surry county, received the nomination on the first ballot.

At three o'clock nearly a dozen candidates were put in nomination for Attorney-General, but pending the calling of the roll they were withdrawn again, except Judge David Fultz, of Staunton, a native of Virginia, who was nominated on the first ballot. The Convention then adjourned until 12 M.

On reassembling, Col. R. W. Hughes, the nominee for Governor, and C. P. Ramsdell, nominee for Lieutenant Governor, addressed the convention.

The Committee on Platform announced the principles which would govern the party in the approaching canvass. They reaffirm the platform of 1872, endorse the Administration of U. S. Grant, favor an *ad valorem* system of taxation as set forth in the Constitution, and favor the total abolition of taxes on tobacco as soon as it can be done without detriment to the national finances.

The platform advocates internal improvement not only in Virginia but in the whole country, as a means of cheap transportation, and therefore favors the completion of the James River and Kanawha Canal, and calls upon Congress to make the appropriation at its next session, believing it a national necessity, opposes all extra compensation, and favors economy in State and National affairs; disapproves of the act known as the "Funding Bill" as having been made solely in the interest of the bondholders, and demands the submission of the question of the financial condition of Virginia and West Virginia to the Supreme Court of the United States; favors the impartial administration of justice to both races; favors the election of the President and Vice-President and all officers of the Government by a direct vote of the people; approves the action of the Geneva of settling international disputes by arbitration instead of resorting to the sword; demands that the Federal courts shall be accessible to all citizens for redress; demands reform in the State laws in order to secure fair elections by the abolition of partisan supervision.

The report was adopted *nem. con.*

C. L. Milbrew, colored, of Richmond, offered the following:

Resolved, That we disapprove of the act passed by Congress entitling Congressmen to draw back pay from the Treasury of the United States.

This resolution created much confusion and excitement. Judge Shoemaker denounced it severely, while others favored its adoption.

The Hon. James B. Platt, Member of Congress, said he was ashamed of the so-called salary stealers it was perhaps proper that he should say something on this resolution. He represented a district that had paid over $10,000,000 into the Treasury of the United States since the war and was responsible only to his constituents.

He did not recognize the right of the Convention to instruct him in the performance of his duty. Even if such instructions were not presumed to instruct members of Congress, but only requested them. He had no apologies to offer, no excuses to make, for his vote on the Salary bill. He had voted for it six times, and should vote in precisely the same way again under the same circumstances.

He had never voted on any measure with a more thorough conviction of its justice and propriety. His only objection to the bill was that it had not gone far enough and embraced a large class of employees that this great and rich Government are keeping at starvation wages in the city of Washington. He was prepared to defend himself and the measure on every stump in Virginia, and when the people heard him they knew it he had no doubt of their approval. It had been misrepresented by the press of the country, and was misunderstood in States having large Republican majorities. Conventions and Legislatures had adopted resolutions of censure, but he thought when the Legislature of Virginia, with its overwhelming Democratic majority, passed a resolution censuring the six Democratic members from the State, it would be time enough for a Republican Convention to pass a resolution censuring the four Republican members.

After the appointment of the usual committees the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

TWELFTH WARD ASSESSMENTS.

The Tax Payers' Remonstrances against Unjust Taxation.

The Supervisors' committee began the examination of the tax books of the Twelfth Ward yesterday.

Supervisor Koch, one of the committee, said there was a lot in Fifty-seventh street, between Second and Third avenues, on which stood a four-story brown stone house. Although the house was erected two years ago, it was assessed at $20,000. He added that the adjoining house although not worth so much was assessed on a valuation of $7,500, and that the valuation on a three-story house on the other side of the street was $8,500.

Mr. Hugh Treble complained that the valuation on sixteen lots in Fifth avenue, between Seventy-third and Seventy-fourth streets, had been increased from $165,000 to $267,000, over sixty-four per cent. He said that the property would not sell for as much now as last year.

Mr. William Whitlock complained that the valuation on ten lots in Eleventh avenue, near 100th street, had been increased from $8,000 to $20,000. He thought that the increase was not justified by any rise in the value of the property, as the lots were not worth as much as they were last year.

Mr. John Schaefer owned property in 100th street, near Eight avenue. The valuation had been increased from $10,000 to $11,500, although the property was unimproved, there being neither water nor gas in the buildings. He thought $8,000 would have been a full valuation.

Mrs. Louisa St. John, who gave her name as Mrs. Scofield, complained that her three lots in Fifth avenue, near Eighty-sixth street, were valued much higher than other lots in the same avenue. She knew that some of the other lots which were assessed less than hers were really worth more. She knew the value of property. She always attended sales and bought property, and even searched the titles herself. She did not care how much her property was assessed as long as the valuation did not exceed that on equally good property in the same neighborhood as hers.

The examination is to be continued to-day.

A GHASTLY CHEAT.

An Ostentatious Funeral Ordered for an Aged Woman in Brooklyn.

Yesterday afternoon a sombre dressed individual about twenty-six, with a very wide weed on his hat, and a deep black border fringing his handkerchief, plunged into the undertaking establishment of Mr. James Harper, 163 Court street, Brooklyn, and in an excited tone requested Mr. Wilgus, the attendant, to send around to 111 Clinton street and arrange for the funeral of his mother, just deceased. He desired her to be buried on Saturday, and that the obsequies should be of the utmost grandeur. The casket must be of the richest material, the hearse to be drawn by six caparisoned horses, all the details to harmonize. As he delivered the several directions his emotion was so great that the large sized black bordered handkerchief, ample as it seemed to be, failed to conceal it.

He inquired where he could find a hotel, and was directed to Mr. James H. Park, 121 Court street. He was gone about twenty minutes. He returned, and said to Mr. Wilgus, "I have ordered $30 worth of flowers; but, confound it, he wouldn't take my order until I had left a deposit of $5. I had but $5 with me, which I wanted to use in paying for a telegram to my brother in Bloomington. I am very anxious to send my despatch; will you loan me that amount and carry it on your bill for the funeral?"

Mr. Wilgus declined to accommodate the individual, and the latter went away, saying that he would "have to go around to the house for it."

Mr. Wilgus took a measuring stick and started out to fill his order. Being somewhat suspicious, he went up to Mr. Park's and inquired whether an order for $30 worth of flowers had been received. "No, not $30, but $15, is the amount; and he wanted to borrow $5 said that you told him we would give it to him for you. I began to smell a mouse and refused, at which he went out." Mr. Wilgus tried to find 111 Clinton street, but no such number is in existence.

Detective Williams says that the operator in this transaction has been "doing" the undertakers for months.

The Spencer Divorce Case.

Judge Neilson reserved his decision yesterday in the divorce case of Spencer vs. Spencer on defendant's motion for alimony and counsel fees. The case is one of more than ordinary interest from the station in society occupied by the parties. The defendant is a daughter of the late Wm. B. Bradbury, the famous piano maker. She is a lady of refinement, taste and culture. The plaintiff is the superintendent of a book bindery in New York, and is comparatively wealthy. Both of the persons with whom she is accused stand well in society, J. C. Hull being a merchant in good standing, and Mr. Wilder being the chorister in Dr. Cuyler's Church.

The Weather To-Day.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The Signal Office predicts on Friday for the Middle States easterly winds, veering to southwest, higher temperature, cloudy weather, and numerous local storms. For New England south and east winds, higher temperature, increasing cloudiness, and possibly local rains. For the lower lakes and Ohio valley southwesterly winds and numerous local storms.

FUN FOR THE BETTING MEN.

FORTUNES WON AND LOST ON THE SARATOGA TRACK.

Joe Daniels Beaten in the Race for All Ages—An Exciting Struggle Between True Blue and Mate—John Chamberlin Winning $10,000 on True Blue.

SARATOGA, July 31.—The weather to-day was fine, and there was a good attendance at the races. In the first race for a purse of $500, one mile, the following started: Hitchcock's Quits, Rice & McCormack's Sunrise, Walden's Minnie W., Watson's filly, and Brooks & McDaniels's Sue Ryder.

Great disappointment was expressed by the backers of Crookford when it was announced that she would not start. Minnie W. was then regarded as the favorite, and in several pools sold at odds against all other horses entered. After several attempts a start was effected, Sunrise getting away first, Quits second, Valley Brook third, Minnie W. fourth, and Sue Ryder fifth, which place she maintained to the end of the race. Quits led at the quarter pole, but at the half-mile pole was passed by Minnie W. Entering on the home stretch Minnie W. was ahead by fully two lengths, but here Sunrise pulled up, and in a spurt passed Quits and challenged the favorite. The race up the home stretch between Sunrise and Minnie W. was intensely exciting, and resulted in a victory for Sunrise, who won by about a length. Time, 1:44.

THE RACE FOR ALL AGES.

In the second race, for a purse of $800, for all ages, two miles, the following started: Alloway's Boss Tweed, Rice & McCormack's John McCormack, Carroll & Coar's The Nurse, Sandford's Mate, McDaniels's Joe Daniels, and Hubbard & Chamberlin's True Blue. This race excited intense interest in consequence of the immense amount invested in the pools. The manner in which Joe Daniels won the Saratoga cup caused McDaniels's entry to be the favorite, Mate, Sanford's entry, however, gained many backers, and the owner of True Blue, John Chamberlin, and adherents bought True Blue freely. At the start Boss Tweed took the lead, Hubbard second, and Joe Daniels third. For the first mile Joe Daniels cut out, running from Hubbard, whom McDaniels's confederacy played for winner, and ran tapped with Boss Tweed. The horses passed under the string opposite the judges stand in a bunch, amid the cheers of the spectators, Joe Daniels leading, and Boss Tweed second. Immediately after the race really began, it became evident that either Mate or True Blue, who had both been making a waiting race of it, was bound to prove the winner. At the half-mile pole Mate was ahead of Joe Daniels, closely attended by True Blue. Entering on the home stretch Mate was fully two lengths ahead of True Blue, but the latter with

A MAGNIFICENT BURST OF SPEED

quickly captured him, and then the grandest and finest struggle that was ever witnessed on the American turf ensued between the pair. Head and head they went down the stretch, plying whip and spur, and the spectators utterly unable to determine which was leading. True Blue, however, proved the gaining horse, and managed, when pushing under the string, to show his head in front. Time, 3:32¾. An immense amount of money changed hands on the race. John Chamberlin alone won over $10,000. The time was the fastest ever made, beating that made on the 23d of May, 1871, by Lyttleton at Lexington, 3:34¾. Lyttleton in that race carrying only 104 pounds, against 108 carried by True Blue to-day.

THE HURDLE RACE.

The third race was a hurdle race, for all ages; eight hurdles, welter weights; $500 to the winner, $150 to second, and $100 to third horse. This race proved a very tame affair, and was won by Blind Tom, easily beating Mary Clark, who was second, over half a mile. Villaze Blacksmith, who was the favorite in the betting, refused to jump the hurdles. The time was 4:27¾.

The great event of Saturday will be a dash of three miles, in which Harry Bassett, Wanderer, and True Blue, are expected to run. The other races are for the sequel stakes for three-year-olds and a selling race for two-year-olds.

A LIVELY DAY AT DEERFOOT PARK.

Closing Up Wednesday's Trots—Two Good Fresh Races—The Double Team Contest Postponed Until To-Day.

The attendance at Deerfoot Park yesterday was larger than on any of the previous days of the meeting. The grand stand and balcony were filled to overflowing. The grounds surrounding the course were studded with elegant turnouts and vehicles of every description, with their bon ton and democratic owners. Around the pool boxes were clustered many of the noted turfites of the county, eagerly discussing the merits of their respective favorites and backing their opinions freely with their greenbacks. The weather was all that could be desired, and the track was in good order.

The first event of the day was the unfinished 2:43 class of the preceding day. The horses punctually appeared, eager for the fray.

Susie Clay won the sixth heat and race handsomely, Tom secured second money, and Mollie Baker third money.

The second race was the unfinished 2:33 class, Lady Emma and George each having won a heat the previous day. Lady Emma was a great favorite—four to one over the field—and won the third heat, where pool selling ceased. Lady Emma carried of the prize, winning the fourth heat and race.

THE REGULAR PROGRAMME

of the day was next in order. Purse $200, for double teams. There were four entries. Three teams came to the score. Prince and mate were the favorites, selling for $30, the field $20. Billy and mate won the first heat in three minutes. Prince and mate then sold even against the field. Prince and mate won the second heat in 2:43¾, Lady Pfifer and mate let their heads loose, and won the third heat by beautiful trotting in 2:45, nearly distancing Prince and mate. The betting was even. Lady Pfifer won the fourth heat in 2:48. Prince and mate won the fifth heat in 2:51¾.

The second race of the regular order, purse $500, was the absorbing feature of the day. The entered team were four of the best thoroughbreds of their class, viz.: Charley Green, Grace Bertram, Lady Byron, and Mary A. Whitney. They all put in an appearance. Charley Green was first choice, selling for $100; the field selling for $40. Lady Byron won the first heat in 2:32¾, when the betting became even. Lady Byron won the second heat in 2:31¾. After this heat pool selling ceased. Lady Byron won the third heat and race in 2:30¾.

The third race on the regular programme, for double teams, was begun with the following result, and then postponed until to-day:

J. H. Phillips's Prince and mate 3 1 2 2 1
F. Hearn's Lady Pfifer and mate 2 2 1 1 2
J. Loomis's Billy and mate ..... 1 Distanced.
Time, 3:00, 2:45½, 2:45, 2:48, 2:51¾.

Races in Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, July 31.—The third day's races of the Cleveland Club were postponed until to-morrow on account of the heavy rain. Friday's programme will be carried out on Saturday, when Goldsmith Maid, Lucy, and American Girl will trot for a purse of $6,000. The interest in the races is on the increase, and the prospects for the next two days are brilliant.

The Venerable Mayor Looking at Some of our War Legacies.

The Commissioners of Charities and Correction last week extended an invitation to Mayor Havemeyer and Comptroller Green to visit the institutions under their care, hinting a wish that out of the plenitude of his experience the venerable Mayor would advise them as to their future movements. The visit was made yesterday. The steamer Minnahanonck steamed from the foot of Twenty-sixth street at half past 10. The Mayor was accompanied by his wife and daughter and several friends, and the Commissioners having invited a few young ladies and gentlemen, the day passed merrily. The inspection included all the institutions. On the return voyage, toward sundown, the Mayor and his brilliant staff landed at Ward's Island. The disabled veterans, who are the garrison of the Soldiers' Home, were drawn up in line on the brow of the hill, and awaiting the honor of a review by the Mayor. The first company embraced all the men on crutches, the second those who had lost an arm or had a leg disabled, and the third was seemingly a company of able bodied men. After the review of the troops his Honor walked through the Soldiers' Home, and the Asylums for Inebriates and the Insane.

Clemency Toward the Ku-Klux.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Attorney-General Williams, in answer to a letter from the South Carolina gentlemen who are urging the Ku-Klux pardons, says that the prosecutions now pending in the courts for violations of the Enforcement acts, except in a few aggravated cases, will be suspended or discontinued, and that most, if not all, of those in prison for the same offence, will probably soon be pardoned. Persons who have absented themselves on account of their complicity in Ku-Klux offences are at liberty to return, and unless they have been guilty of the abominable exceptional cases they will not be prosecuted. If, however, any outrages are committed in the future, those committing them will be promptly tried and punished.

A Murderer's Sentence Commuted.

MEMPHIS, July 31.—The Governor has commuted the sentence of Early Eason to imprisonment for life. The murder for which he was sentenced was one of the most cold-blooded ever perpetrated, and the commutation excites much feeling in the community.

THE GREAT FIRES.

The Greenwich Street Warehouse Examined After the Conflagration—The Losses—The Origin of the Fire.

At 2 o'clock yesterday morning the fire in the fifth and sixth stories of the United States public stores in Greenwich street was smothered, and the excitement subsided.

The fire was confined to the fourth, fifth, and sixth floors. The top floors are utterly wrecked, and the fourth is nearly a wreck, while the goods on the lower floors were more or less damaged by water.

The loss is principally in the woollen goods department. The sixth floor was used for the examination of this class of goods. On it were stored bunting, buscs, corsets, feathers, hats, flowers, gloves, hair braids, knit goods, hosiery, millinery goods, parasols, straw braids, umbrellas, worsted goods of various kinds, coir, esparte, and Sisal grass, flax, istle, jute, shoddy, wool, bristles, canes, carpets, furs, matting, oil cloths, palm leaf, whalebone, ratan, and various woollen manufactures.

On the fourth floor were books, artists' materials, beverages, coffee, cocoa, fruits, mineral waters, needles, saddlery, blacking, cordials, harness, soap stock, wines, various works of art, statuary, paintings, stationery, plants, hops, seeds, sealing wax, &c.

On the lower floors were hardware, cutlery, and other heavy and less perishable goods. On the floors that were burnt the storage was under the average amount, and the loss will be less than was supposed.

On Wednesday evening there were 5,282 packages in the building, the total value of which was but little over $7,000,000.

The goods on the fourth floor were owned by Claflin & Co., Sloan & Co., Arnold, Constable & Co., Stewart & Co., and others. Three cases of hair worth $2,000 were burned. The loss of books on the fourth floor was small. Leavitt & Co., Appleton & Co., and Rubens being the losers.

The Board of Underwriters met at 156 Broadway yesterday afternoon, with Mr. Crowell in the chair. Forty-four companies were represented. Their risks on the stock and building footed up $250,000 on stock and about $80,000 on the building. The amount on the lease on the premises could not be obtained. It was found that their losses to each company will be comparatively small. A committee was appointed to take charge of the unidentified goods, subject to the future action of the board.

The building is owned by Dr. J. C. Ayer of Lowell. It was not a bonded warehouse, but an examining store. Some estimates of the loss were at $125,000, which includes that on the building. It is understood that it was fully insured.

A Great Fire in Division Street.

Yesterday, at 3 P. M., Hermann Fortman, porter at Julius Zeller's, the wholesale drug store at 51 Division street, discovered an open barrel of alcohol in the sub-cellar leaking. After feeling around in the dark to stop the leak unsuccessfully, he brought down a lighted lantern and set it down right in a pool of alcohol, and in an instant the whole cellar was ablaze. Fortman escaped with a badly burned arm. He gave the alarm to Engine No. 9, only half a block distant, and in three minutes two streams were directed upon the fire.

The building is four stories high, and extends through, numbering 64 on East Broadway. The East Broadway half of the first floor is occupied by John Foss & Son, rag merchants, who also had a heavy stock of cotton and woollen rags stored on the second and third floors. The fourth floor was used by Zeller for storing drugs. The alarm was not telegraphed from the police stations until after Engine No. 9 had its streams well on. Four other engines responded speedily when summoned, but the flames had made great progress already. The materials in the cellar and sub-cellar were very inflammable, and being stored in barrels they were doubly so. Besides, the burning drugs gave out fumes that were almost insufferable to human lungs, so the firemen worked at great disadvantage. The flames speedily made their way to the ground floor, and then to the mass of rags on the second floor. The sounding of a second alarm called to work a grand total of fifteen engines; but despite this volume of water the flames soon gained mastery.

Soon after the arrival of Engine 15, its captain, Kehoe, and Engineer Bonner went up to the third floor of the burning building. Almost at the same time the fire broke out on that floor both front and rear, cutting them off from both stair cases. Almost choked by smoke they managed to attract attention, and a ladder was placed at a side window by which they escaped.

The rags and drugs were such ready food for the flames that for a while little headway was made by the firemen. With twenty streams laid on, the fire tracked a way through the piles of cotton goods and dense volumes of smoke were emitted. The heat inside was intense, but the heavy walls thoroughly protected the adjoining houses so that the fire could not spread. After the rags had been saturated with water the fire in the upper stories was extinguished. In the cellar it was still raging with considerable violence among the acids and other inflammable fluids. It was not entirely extinguished until 6 P. M.

Zeller estimates his loss at $25,000; fully insured. Foss & Son had $30,000 worth of stock in the building, and estimate their loss at $20,000; two-thirds insured.

The building, which belongs to the Downing estate, was damaged about $8,000; insurance unknown. The total loss foots up nearly $55,000.

OVERHAULING A CORONER.

Inquiry About a Corpse which Narrowly Escaped Burial in Potter's Field.

The investigation of the cause of the death of Mr. James Coulson, late of the *Herald*, was begun yesterday. Coroner Kessler said that although he thought the verdict "found drowned," which was rendered by the jury last Saturday was proper, he was willing to take further testimony, and if any clue to the death was obtained, he was ready to recall the jury and open the inquest.

Mr. Reuben B. Davenport testified that he and Coulson attended a reception on board the City of Chester on Wednesday, the 23d inst. After the reception they walked from the steamer up Canal street. As they approached Greene street, Mr. Coulson seeing a Broadway car going up town started after it. Mr. Davenport did not see him again.

Mr. Peter Moore, the driver of the city hearse, testified that he took the remains from Forty-fourth street and the East river to the Morgue last Saturday. He took from the pockets a bunch of tickets for a base ball game for the benefit of the late Mr. Kelly's family, and several sheets of note paper which had been written upon.

Mr. Wilson asked the witness what he did with the paper and the tickets.

Coroner Kessler objected to the witness answering, on the ground that he had been a juror in the case, and therefore was not a competent witness.

Afterward, having obtained the Coroner's permission to examine the witness informally, Mr. Wilson repeated his question.

The witness replied that he gave them to Coroner Kessler, and afterward, in obedience to his instructions, spread them out on a desk to dry. He also gave the Coroner Mr. Coulson's shirt buttons. The body was examined by Dr. Leo, but it was not stripped.

The witness added that he thought that the tickets and the letter paper were not submitted to the jury at the inquest.

Mr. Wilson here showed the witness the piece of an envelope found in Mr. Coulson's pocket on which was written "Mr. James Coulson, *Herald* office," and asked whether he had ever seen it before.

The witness replied that he took it himself from the pockets. He showed it to the officer who had charge of the body before it was removed from the wharf. He did not show it to Coroner Kessler, but put it on the desk in the Morgue with the rest of Mr. Coulson's property. He thought that the Coroner's attention must have been called to all the paper as he desired him (witness) to spread them out on the desk.

The investigation is to be continued to-day.

A Narrow Escape.

LONG BRANCH, July 31.—This afternoon several gentlemen hired a fishing boat to go to a yacht that was anchored a short distance off shore in front of the Pavilion Hotel. While they were on their way cries of distress reached them from a bather who had ventured out too far. Turning their boat they proceeded to the rescue of the unfortunate individual. They seized him as he was sinking for the last time, took him into their boat, and brought him ashore amid the cheers of the excited multitude on the beach. He proved to be James Fleming of Salem, New Jersey, an excursionist. The names of the rescuing party could not be ascertained.

The Knights of Pythias.

POUGHKEEPSIE, July 31.—The three days' session of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of the State of New York closed to-day. This evening there was a parade of the Poughkeepsie organization and the grand officers were escorted to a promenade concert and soiree in the Kirchner Building. Nearly all of the delegates have left for home.

The Grand Lodge at their session to-day passed a resolution to join with the Press Lodge, Knights of Pythias of New York in their reunion, to be held at Jones's Woods on Saturday, Aug. 2.

Liberal Republican State Convention.

SARATOGA, July 31.—The Liberal Republican State Committee met at the Grand Union here to-night. There were fifteen members present. The only action taken was to appoint a committee of six, with Gen. Cochrane Chairman, to determine upon the time, place, and call for holding a State Convention, and report to the committee on Friday at 11 A. M. to-morrow.

STRUGGLE WITH A MADMAN

A TERRIBLE ENCOUNTER IN DARKNESS IN A BED CHAMBER.

Eight Days of Drink Ending in Delirium Tremens and Suicide—An Attempt to Kill an Unoffending Fellow-Lodger.

Joseph Schneider, a flaxen-haired young printer of German parentage, aged 22, had an extraordinary experience on Wednesday night. He had been rooming for some time with a cigar maker of the same nationality, aged 42, named George Lahr, at 33 Avenue A. The two men rented their room from Jacob Witzig, who lives with his family on the same floor of the tenement. Schneider went to bed at his usual hour, leaving his room mate to cruise the streets and indulge in lager. About one o'clock the sleeping man was awakened by a terrific blow over the face, the weapon being a sword bayonet. He sprang up in his bed and began an almost involuntary struggle for life. The room was pitch dark, and Schneider did not know who his assailant was. He put up his hands to ward off the blows rained upon his head, and they were frightfully hacked, in fact, almost severed from his arms. He eventually escaped from his would-be assassin and reached the door of his room. There his fright was increased by a pistol ball, which grazed his head and imbedded itself in the wall. Shouting for help, he opened the door and rushed into an adjoining room, closely followed behind him. The noise of the deadly conflict aroused the other occupants of the floor. Mrs. Witzig, the first to comprehend

THE PERIL

of her lodger, lost no time in undoing the fastenings and admitting him into her own room. Afterward she went to a front room on the lower floor and shouted for the police. At the same instant there was a second report from a pistol in the room from which Schneider had fled, and a heavy body fell on the floor, indicating that some one had fallen.

By this time the whole household was alarmed. Lights were procured, and Mr. Witzig and his family cautiously entered the room. They found Lahr on the floor, bleeding copiously from a shot wound in the forehead, evidently self-inflicted. The pistol, a four-barrelled Sharp's revolver, was still grasped in his right hand. The bed in which Schneider had slept was saturated with blood, and the wall near the door was smeared from his bleeding hands. His track to the room in which he took refuge was also plainly marked by blood. Policemen O'Reilly and Quigley of the Fifth street station arrived at the scene before the family had recovered from their consternation. They lost no time in bearing both the wounded men to the station, whence they were taken to Bellevue Hospital after their wounds had been attended to. Lahr lingered until late last evening. Schneider's injuries are severe, but will not be fatal unless erysipelas is superinduced, of which the doctors are apprehensive.

RUM.

There is no reasonable theory to account for this midnight attack upon a sleeping man, except that Lahr was suddenly attacked with *mania a potu*. He had not been at work for eight days and was drinking, but not to an extent which alarmed his friends. Between him and Schneider there was no quarrel that any one knows of. Three or four days ago Schneider was heard to remonstrate with Lahr for captiously absenting himself from a wedding in Mr. Witzig's family for no assigned reason, except dislike to one of the male guests. Lahr then talked vaguely, and it is thought purposely, about shedding somebody's blood, but Mr. Witzig's family did not understand Schneider to be threatened, and the room-mates were apparently intimate and friendly up to the night of the tragedy. Ten days ago Lahr expressed dissatisfaction with a large navy revolver which he habitually kept under his pillow, and avowed his purpose to change it for a smaller weapon. It is probable that he did so on Wednesday, as the navy revolver is missing. Where he procured the sword bayonet is not known. Schneider is so far unconscious that he is unable to tell the story of his terrible encounter.

WILLIAM BLACKHAM'S TWO WIVES

Their Strange Meeting on a Steamboat, and the Unhappy Result.

Margaret Greene was married to William Blackham thirteen years ago, and they lived in Greenpoint until four years ago, when he went to Aiken, N. Y., and began to neglect his wife. She has since nearly supported herself and six children. On Tuesday she went with the Excelsior Club excursion to Spring Hill. On the return she was attracted by a bustle on deck, and drawing near a hand was laid on hers, and a neat woman said, "Lady, what's the matter?" Mrs. Blackham saw her husband quarreling with a third hand, and exclaimed, "Why, that's my husband!"

"It can't be," said the other, "for that's my husband."

"I've been married to him thirteen years," said Mrs. Blackham.

"And I have been married to him three years and I'm a mother," said the other.

At this both women began to weep. Wife number two related how she had met Blackham in Vermont, married him against the wishes of her parents, and ran away with him to the place where he worked on the Hudson. The appearance of the two women attracted attention. Blackham said very little in defence. He hinted, however, that wife number one could get a divorce if she wished; also remarking that it would be hard for her to prove his second marriage.

Mrs. Blackham made complaint yesterday against her husband before Justice Elliott of Brooklyn, and took out a warrant for his arrest on a charge of bigamy.

President Stebbins's Resignation.

At the meeting of the Park Commissioners yesterday, Mr. Henry S. Stebbins tendered his resignation of the Presidency. He said that he had been only temporarily appointed, and that as the new board had got fairly to work, he preferred that some other one of the Commissioners should be elected permanent President. His resignation was accepted, and the election for his successor was postponed.

A communication was received from the Workingmen's Central Council protesting against the employment of unskilled labor in the reservoir. The secretary was directed to reply that the board always aimed to employ none but skilled workmen, and the board adjourned.

Don't Drink with Strangers.

Michael Ryan, just arrived from Troy, while in Sweeny's Hotel, last night, was approached by two fashionably dressed young men, and one of them said: "Glad to see you, Mr. Ryan; won't you have a drink?" Mr. Ryan assented, and the trio stepped up to the bar. "Shall I hold your valise, Mr. Ryan?" asked one of them condescendingly. The credulous countryman surrendered his valise, and while taking his drink the valise and one of the fashionable young gentlemen disappeared. Soon afterward Ryan ran to the side walk for the police. Officer Waterman arrested James Long, no home, who was identified by Ryan in the Oak street police station. Sergeant Brooks locked him up.

A Lost Boy Found in the River.

On Tuesday afternoon John H. Lance, 12 years old, went from his parents' residence, 742 Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn. Yesterday morning he was found in the river at the foot of Dykeman street. He had been slightly deranged. On quitting the house he was seen in company with a Hebrew peddler. On Wednesday afternoon his father inquired for him at police headquarters, and on going away said he would not return to his home until he had found his boy. Yesterday afternoon the mother, after identifying his body, called at the Central Office in search of her husband. She fears that grief may have driven him out of his mind.

The Health of Vice-President Wilson.

BOSTON, July 31.—The *Evening Traveller* publishes the following:

"A Washington correspondent telegraphs that Mr. Wilson is about to undergo a formidable operation and it is thought he may not survive."

On the contrary, Mr. Wilson is much better than he has been at any time since his illness and is steadily improving. No operation whatever is or has been contemplated. It is to be regretted that newspaper correspondents will not allow him to recover in peace.

SPARKS FROM THE TELEGRAPH.

Gov. Curtin is at Congress Hall, Saratoga.

Thomas E. Lloyd, a leading lawyer of Washington, died yesterday afternoon.

The President and Gen. Babcock