BOYCOTTING THE TAX SALES.

THE ORIGIN OF THE REPORTED GREENWOOD INSURRECTION.

Steuben County Farmers Resisting the Payment of Taxes on Certain Railroad Bonds which they Claim were Not Legally Issued by Refusing to Bid for One Another's Property—The History of the Dispute.

Greenwood is the name of a quiet little agricultural town of Steuben County, fourteen miles below Hornellsville. Ever since the 13th inst., when a despatch was sent from Albany representing Greenwood as in a state of lawlessness, insurrection, and riot, it has been matter of current statement that the place was in the hands of Molly Maguires; that the people there would pay no taxes; that outrageous violence was shown to officers of the law and would-be purchasers at tax sales had been grievously injured; that the repudiators marched about with martial music and defied the world; that they were well armed and full of hard cider; and, finally, that all this was upon the authority of the Sheriff of the county, who had gone to Albany to say it. The Sheriff has been at home, in the town of Bath, sick, ever since the 8th inst., and every one of the foregoing affirmations was false.

The people of the town do feel most keenly what they call an outrageous extortion, and they are endeavoring by Boycotting tax sales to delay the consummation of the scheme of which it is sought to make them victims until such time as they can attain a fair compromise. This resistance has been going on for several years, and has never been violent. At one tax sale, about two years ago, a man was hurt, as he said, by persons opposed to his bidding, but it was proven by several witnesses in a Justice's court that the only injury he received was from the kick of a vicious horse, which he was examining with a view to purchase. In all the sales this year only one person has made a bid for anything, and he was not hurt, or even threatened, but simply reasoned with by men who explained the situation to him, and peacefully persuaded him not to aid in the perpetration of an injustice to poor men. It is not true that there is any refusal to pay all taxes. Few, if any, rural towns in the State pay more promptly their town, county, school, and State taxes than does Greenwood. All the trouble is from an attempt to force them to pay taxes upon railway bonds, which they claim were never legally issued, for a railroad the construction of which was to all seeming abandoned seven years ago.

The story of the issue of these disputed town bonds in aid of the construction of the projected Rochester, Hornellsville and Pine Creek Railroad has never yet been fully and impartially published, and is an exceedingly interesting one, as gleaned by a reporter for THE SUN from town and county officials and private persons on both sides of the question. Mr. Silas Kellogg, Justice of the Peace, in a statement which was endorsed by H. H. Mallory, ex-Supervisor, P. A. Mead, Supervisor, and several other prominent citizens, said:

"In 1872 they attempted, under the general bonding act, to bond this town to aid the building of that road. Vice-President Davis, Vice-President of the railroad company, made great personal exertions to procure signatures, representing the necessary amount of property, to the required petitions. When the motion was made before County Judge G. G. Spencer for the appointment of the bonding Commissioners, Levi P. Rogers, Purdy A. Mead, and others—who represented the great majority of our citizens, especially the poorer ones, who could ill afford to have any new burdens put upon them at that time—appeared in opposition, pleading non-compliance with the bonding law in the action already taken, inasmuch as the petition did not set forth that the railway corporation mentioned was one organized in the State of New York, and that the Judge had no jurisdiction in the premises. Judge Spencer overruled the objection, declared that he had jurisdiction and appointed as Commissioners John Miller Brundage, Chauncey J. Ersley, and Barney O'Hargan. The Hon. William Rumsey appeared for the contestants, and Messrs. Demas & Noar for the advocates of the bonding. It was agreed between counsel that if the contestants would not get out an injunction, the Commissioners would take no action toward the issuing of bonds until time had been afforded for an appeal from Judge Spencer's decision. In violation of that agreement, however, the Commissioners hurriedly and secretly went to work and completed $30,000 of bonds—having twenty years to run and bearing 7 per cent interest—and turned them over to the railroad company in exchange for a nominal $30,000 of stock in the company. It is believed by the people of Greenwood that the secrecy, haste, and bad faith of that transaction were in furtherance of a scheme to get the bonds out of the hands of the original bona-fide of nominal holders, who could be represented in United States Court proceedings as innocent purchasers, third parties irresponsible for any trickery in the issue of the bonds. As some evidence of that, is cited the fact that when Mr. Rumsey tried to find out where the bonds had gone to, A. E. Stephens of Greenwood testified that $10,000 of them had mysteriously disappeared from his safe. John Davis testified that he had sold those same $10,000 to his nephew, Raymond D. Stephens of Iowa, who had given his note for them at 85 per cent, which note had not been paid. Samuel Alley, of Corning, President of the road, said to Thos. D. Rogers four years ago that he had sold $10,000 more to his brother in Michigan, and that he (Alley) would have not yet been accounted for. The meeting of the Town Board on Sept. 23, 1872, at which a seal was adopted for the bonds, was not a regular one, but special, and only such members were notified to be present as were known to be in favor of the issue of the bonds. The notice, signed by Valentine Reimann, then Town Clerk, was:

With reference to the secrecy with which the work of hurrying out the bonds is alleged to have been performed, J. Van Vleet, son-in-law of C. J. Ersley, one of the Commissioners, told the reporter:

"I was employed to go to J. Miller Brundage's house to bring up another lot of bonds for Mr. Ersley to sign. The signing was being done in different places. It was 10 o'clock at night. It was understood that nobody on the outside was to know what was going on. Charley Norton was helping Brundage, and was cautioned not even to tell his wife. The bonds were carried back and forth to be signed. I don't know who took charge of them when completed."

Commissioner Brundage said: "I've nothing to say about the matter. I was one of the Commissioners who issued the bonds. They were dated October, 1872. I delivered them myself to the President of the railroad company, and received stock at par for their face amount. I have the certificates for that stock in my safe now. They have never called for the book or certificates. I suppose they thought they were not worth calling for. It is true we got the bonds out something in a hurry, because the county agent wanted to have them as soon as possible, I don't know why. I know nothing about the fear of an injunction. In secret—well—we didn't publish around the streets what we were doing. The only persons who knew what was going on were Mr. Davis and his family, my family, the Commissioners, myself, and Mr. Van Vleet. A little after daylight the morning after they were completed, I took them over to Bath, the county seat, and made the transfer after they had been registered at the County Clerk's office."

Mr. Kellogg continued his narration: "The Court of Appeals reversed Judge Spencer's decision, holding our objections well taken. But by that time the bonds were issued and gone, we could not find out where. The people of this town, learning that Judge Spencer's action was declared void, supposed the thing ended, but George B. Bradley, who had acted as counsel for the railroad company, was elected Senator, and managed to get through the Legislature, upon what we claim to have been fraudulently signed petitions and false representations, an enabling act, making the acts of Judge Spencer legal. That was six months after the decision of the Court of Appeals, and we do not believe that act would stand the test of law, as we mean that it shall, before we submit to be swindled under it. The petitions for the passage of that act, representing the people of Greenwood as in favor of it, were not shown to people known to be opposed to the bonding scheme, except where it was claimed they could be induced by personal influence to sign it, and nearly all the signatures to it were obtained from persons in the towns of West Union, Jasper, Hartsville, and other places in the vicinity."

Conservative statements were made by other persons to the reporter, in this regard. William Burton said: "Mr. Davis, Vice-President of the railroad, gave me the petition, and told me where to go to get names to it. I was a deputy sheriff at the time. I went to West Union with it and got a lot of signers there, as also others that I met there from Troupsburgh and Jasper. I got perhaps eighteen, in this town also—those whom we knew to be right."

P. Cocoman said: "Mr. Davis came to me twice to get me to sign the petition. I said that though he was a good friend of mine, if my father was dead and should come out of the grave and ask me to sign that petition, I wouldn't do it. Then he asked me to lend him the use of my name on the petition for a week to influence William Hylan and others to sign it, believing they would do so if they thought I did, and then I could come down and take my name off the petition. I said, 'It's a very unreasonable thing, Mr. Davis, to ask me to influence my neighbors to do what I would not do myself, and I think it's dishonorable.' He said he thought I'd have been a better friend of his, and went away mad, and I heard afterward that he had told people anyway that I had signed it to get them to sign."

J. O'Hargan said: "My father was one of the Commissioners and was not in favor of issuing the bonds in the way they were, but Davis represented to him, in my hearing, 'If you sign them we will have an operating railroad through your town in three, or, at furthest, four years, and it will yield such a dividend that it will pay all your town and State taxes.' Similar representations were to my knowledge used to get signatures for the petition to the Legislature."

Returning to the narrative of Mr. Kellogg, still acquiesced in, aided and endorsed by the gentlemen named and a score of others, who took up all the available space around, except on town of Greenwood's head, while the story was being told, he continued: "Suit was brought, after the passage of the enabling act, before United States Circuit Judge Wallace, at Syracuse, to compel payment of interest on the bonds, in the name of Raymond D. Stephens. The suit brought was for $2,100, and the plea was, as from the first it had been planned, that the holder was a third party, an innocent purchaser, outside the State. We pleaded with them to bring the suit on the whole amount, instead of one-third of the bonds, in order that, the sum at issue being over $5,000, we might carry it to the United States Supreme Court and there have the matter definitely settled, but this they refused to do. Judge Wallace gave judgment in their favor without even troubling himself to hear any evidence on our side. At the conclusion of his term as Supervisor, during which he had worked so hard to put this burden on his town, Mr. John Davis went out of office—permanently, so far as Greenwood is concerned—and in 1875, simply on the question being over no bonds, Mr. H. H. Mallory was elected by an overwhelming majority, and has held the office since until yesterday, when, in compliance with his wish for retirement, Mr. P. A. Mead, another vigorous anti-bond man, was elected in his stead.

"During two years after the bonds were issued the railroad company went on grading a roadway into and through our town. Then they abandoned it, and not a stroke of work has been done on it since they got Judge Wallace's decision that we must pay them interest on bonds which we had never sanctioned, which never were legally issued, which only took a color of legality from a fraudulently obtained legislative act, which were for a railroad that there was no earthly hope of ever seeing constructed. The roadway is a cheaply constructed one up the valley of Bennett's Creek, with no heavy cutting, no bridging, nothing, in fact, to make it a costly thing, and there are many among us who do not believe that its completion was ever contemplated, that it was ever anything more than a scheme to get our money without giving us any return for it. As it is now, it would have to be nearly all done over again for its little culverts have all tumbled in, for lack of care, and the road bed is in many places washed away. It is a noteworthy fact that the persons who are fighting for the interest on those bonds are officers and counsel of the railroad company, which still maintains its organization, and that their stories do not hang together. Mr. Davis, being asked by Mr. Rogers why the road was not completed, said, 'Because the town of Greenwood will not make good its bonds,' and yet to others he has said, over and over again, that the railroad company had sold the bonds to innocent purchasers and got the money for them. That, indeed, he averred in court. If the company got the money why does it not go ahead? They tried to get Supervisor Mallory indicted, because he had not reported to the annual town meeting, as bond-indebtedness of the town, those bonds. He relied on the decision of the Court of Appeals and the illegality of the enabling act. They got the indictment, but he has never been tried. John Davis told Andrew and James Miller, when trying to induce them to sign the petition to the Legislature, that if they would sign the building of the road would go right ahead, and they would never have to pay the principal of the bonds, as the tax on the railroad property in the town would go into a sinking fund that would clear off all the principal. But there is not much encouragement to believe that, since they have not paid any taxes on their roadway here, or, as I understand, in other places, or settled right of way claims against them."

At a town meeting in the last of November, 1881, Messrs. Silas Kellogg and P. A. Mead were appointed to confer with Mr. John M. Finch, attorney in the railroad company's employ and representative of the bondholders, at Hornellsville, and to propose a compromise to him. They proposed that if the old and contested bonds were surrendered they would for interest upon them abandoned, and if the company would engage to go ahead, in good faith, with the building of the road, the town would issue $30,000 in new and good bonds, place them just as quickly as the necessary formalities could be gone through with, probably within thirty days, and immediately turn over their full value of $30,000, in cash, to the company. Mr. Finch said that he only spoke for Mr. Stephens, owner of the bonds, but would go $2,000 better toward a compromise than his principal had authorized him to go at first he wanted $10,000 of back taxes paid up, but finally said he would take $38,000—the $30,000 in new bonds and $8,000 for back taxes. There the negotiation rests at present.

Inquiry among the so-called bond repudiators fails to elicit anything in regard to the very perfect willingness to pay interest and principal on a proper issue of bonds if the company would only go ahead honestly with the building of the road. There is not, and has not been, any violent resistance of the execution of the processes of the law. Collector Levi D. Pease made his first move toward collecting the bond tax this year by levying upon forty-one pieces of personal property, belonging to as many citizens, and advertising them for sale on July 28 at thirteen different places. The citizens notified, themselves brought to the places where they were to be sold their various articles of property levied upon—horses, cows, watches. In succession, the Collector went to the farms of P. A. Mead, Marcellus Hartsville, Enos Mead, William Hively, Isaac Stryker, Jessie Northrop, O. W. Swarts, George Hurst, William Hylan, Wilber F. Mead, Thos. Murray, Miss Conrad, and John Miller, at each place offering for sale the articles brought there by his captive. But there was no bid. The Collector himself became hoarse without avail. Nobody seemed willing to give as much as ten cents for a cow or a horse. The two or three hundred neighbors gathered for the occasion laughed, joked, and, when the collector gave up time for the third place, nobody would buy, took their property home again.

The second sale was advertised for the 7th of February, at Andrew Miller's, Harriet Atkins's, John Rogers's, John Young's, and William Young's. For that sale no less than 103 persons were on hand with property to bring their property to one or another place—whatever was most convenient for them respectively—and they all obeyed. At the first place, Andrew Miller's, a young man named Curtis, who subsequently said that he was a lawyer from Horseheads, said that he had come there for the purpose of bidding by request, offered a dollar for a silver watch belonging to George Meade, which was put up. The father of Meade bid $2, and the watch was knocked down to him after a long delay on the part of the collector, who vainly tried to get another bid from Curtis. Meanwhile Supervisor Mallory and one of the Rogers brothers were reasoning with the young lawyer from Horseheads. They told him of the hardship and injustice of his proceeding, and, finally, asked him why, if he were standing together for mutual protection, appealed to his better nature for sympathy with the poor men against whom these alleged extortions were being practised, and while they pledged themselves to see that no harm should come to him if he chose to go on bidding, asked him as a man to refrain from doing so. He not only did refrain, but prevented two friends, who, he said, came with him to bid, from doing so. And not another bid was offered all that day. When the crowd reached John Rogers's house in advance of the time advertised for the sale, Mr. Rogers, to amuse them while waiting, gave them music. He is a good drummer, and has a rival in one of his sons, while a second son is a fiddler celebrated in the neighborhood for his skill. The fiddler was away from home, but the two drummers, father and son, brought their instruments out on the porch and thumped out a few lively measures. Then John Rogers, being a hospitable, good fellow, passed around among his neighbors and friends, and the Deputy Sheriffs who were present to keep order, several pitchers of cider. While they still waited some of the sturdy young farmers present, hearty, good-humored fellows, full of life and animal spirits, began wrestling with each other, calling each other on rails, and playing other rough jokes, such as every one familiar with such gatherings at sales, raisings, and log-rollings has often witnessed. Some of the older men asked Sheriff Erastus P. Higgins, who was present with a posse, if he wanted the boys' fun stopped, as incompatible with the dignity of the proceeding. "Why, no!" he replied. "I used to be a boy myself, and liked fun as well as anybody." These were the simple facts about the stories of riotous, martial music, hard cider, violence to purchasers, and intimidation, which were circulated through the country. They kept silence when bids were called for. "And, thank God," said one of them to the reporter, "though the railroad corporations have this country pretty well under their thumbs, things have not come to such a pass that they can compel a man to buy what he doesn't want."

The third day's sales were advertised for Feb. 15, at the farms of Emmet Coston and B. F. Stephens, and in front of H. N. Reynolds's Greenwood Hotel in the village square. At these points, in obedience to the Tax Collector's orders, 101 citizens brought property which he had levied upon for sale. Whether there would have been bidders on this occasion or not, is undecided, for before the hour for the first sale to begin an objection was raised to the collector's proceeding, which he deemed valid. It was found that his official bonds expired in the first week of February, and he would have to file new ones before he could perform any further official acts. This he recognized as a valid objection, and the sales were adjourned indefinitely. But there were present, in addition to the 350 or 400 farmers belonging to the town, 40 special deputy sheriffs from Hornellsville and other places in the vicinity, under command of Deputy Sheriff Charles Dudley. Several of them avowed that they came there under the guise of deputy sheriffs expressly to bid, thinking they could get things cheap from the obstinate people of Greenwood, and one, a man named Chrisfield, from Hornellsville, said that he had general orders from somebody to bid $10 on every horse that was put up. The reporter found no arms among the Greenwood farmers, although according to report they were said to be well armed; but the deputy sheriffs were all armed with revolvers, and had no hesitancy about making the fact known. The Greenwooders say that thus far they have had no thought of forcible resistance to the sales, but simply are agreed that they will not bid for one another's property. The collector says that they pay promptly and well all other taxes than those upon these obnoxious and contested bonds. Harvey Prentiss, an old deputy sheriff, said to the reporter: "I have attended all this year's sales, and have found at them uniform good nature and friendliness. I have seen no hard of one ill-natured or unfriendly action. People simply stand around and do not bid. But they have offered no violence, either to strangers or officers of the law. I have never been better treated anywhere than at these sales, and have seen nothing that indicated even a disposition toward violence. If there had been anything of the sort I would have seen it, as I am here for that purpose."

With reference to the report that most of the inhabitants of Greenwood are "Molly Maguires from the oil regions, young Irishmen who are a power in local politics," the fact is that not one-quarter of the voters of the town are either Irish or of Irish descent, and that there are only twenty-five Irish-born residents, and they are generally held by their fellow citizens to be law-abiding, industrious men, who have nothing in sympathy with Molly Maguireism."

The extension of branches of other railroads in Pennsylvania, tapping the Pine Creek bituminous coal region, to which it was intended that the road through Greenwood should give the New York, Lake Erie and Western access, has, it is deemed, removed the chief reason for this project.

GOULD'S BRILLIANT STROKE.

Wall Street Men Admiring It, and the Jersey Central Management Confident.

The management of the Central Railroad of New Jersey is confident that Gov. Ludlow will sign the bill, which has passed the Legislature, permitting a railroad company to increase its capital stock for the purpose of paying off its indebtedness. While the Central road is not mentioned in the bill, it is conceded that the measure was introduced to enable it to increase its capital, that additional shares might be placed in the hands of the present management to defeat the plans of foreign companies—the Baltimore and Ohio and the Philadelphia and Reading—to obtain jointly control of the road. It is held that, as the bill is in the interest of a New Jersey corporation as against foreign companies, no opposition can be effective. In Wall street this step of Judge Lathrop, Jay Gould, and their associates, is considered as one of the most brilliant moves in a game.

Vice-President Robert Garrett of the Baltimore and Ohio, who has been in this city for several days, and who represented that company in the negotiations for a representation in the management of the Central, left Haven of the Central yesterday morning, and soon afterward left for Philadelphia to consult with President Gowen of the Reading. It is understood that Messrs. Haven and Garrett were in accord as to what the relations between the Central, the Baltimore and Ohio and the Reading should be, but that Mr. Gowen was not, and aspired to a larger part in the direction than the present management was willing to allow. Hence the disagreement which has resulted in the solicitation of proxies by both parties. Mr. Garrett called upon Mr. Haven yesterday to give formal notice that the negotiations which had been pending were at an end, so far as his road and the Reading were concerned.

As soon as Mr. Gowen learned of the passage of the bill in Trenton and of its nature, he came to this city on Thursday, for the purpose, it is said, of consulting with Mr. Vanderbilt, who assisted him to regain the Presidency of the Reading. What surprises both Wall street and railroad people is that, after securing the Presidency of Reading through Vanderbilt's assistance, Mr. Gowen should unite with the Baltimore and Ohio, against which Mr. Vanderbilt has an especial grievance, to secure for that road an independent outlet to New York. Mr. Vanderbilt has said that, as the Baltimore and Ohio has not been a New York road, it had no business to feed this port.

The present management now has the advantage, but the Garrett-Gowen party have not given up the fight, and there is talk of contesting the constitutionality of the bill.

President Garrett left for Trenton that Gowen returned to this city to-day, but had no communication to make in regard to the struggle for control of the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey. In the afternoon he had a consultation with E. C. Knight, the former President of the New Jersey Central road.

KUN-HUA KO'S FUNERAL.

The Services in Appleton Chapel—Readings from the New Testament and from Confucius.

From the Boston Advertiser, Feb. 17.

Services of a simple nature were held over the remains of Prof. Kun-Hua Ko, Professor of Chinese in Harvard College, at Appleton Chapel, Cambridge, yesterday afternoon. At noon the body, enclosed in a leaden casket, was brought into the auditorium, the casket being closed, and on the lid was a mandarin's cap of brown fur surrounded by the official circle of colored peacock feathers. Following the casket came President Eliot, beside whom was Poh-fu C. Ko, the eldest son of the deceased, who was clothed in a white robe and cap, the usual mourning costume of the Chinese. The other attendants upon the remains were Chang Yen Hoon, Chinese Minister, Hartwell Mr. Drew of the imperial customs of China, Mr. A. M. Knight, Mr. Hooper of the Corporation, and Prof. Lane. Among those present were the faculty of the college and a large number of students. The services were conducted by the Rev. G. C. Everett, D.D., dean of the divinity school, who made an extemporaneous address, after the singing of "Den Entschlafenen," by the choir. In his address were the following passages:

We looked forward to his coming with a certain curiosity. We knew he came into the world. We wondered how things would strike him; whether he would be bewildered by the multitude of new things that forced themselves upon his attention. We remembered how we used to see him walking our streets, perhaps, with a thoughtful face, and how we felt that he was surrounded by his family, by a fitness that not only had he introduced upon our streets a touch of oriental color, and on our Sabbath days, by night almost of oriental splendor, but that he had introduced an element of oriental repose as well. And when we saw the sweet dignity of his face, the sweet calmness that was in all the lineaments of his face, we felt that we could certainly not even the insults which were sometimes cast upon simply because he was a stranger, could disturb, as he felt, the calm of his spirit. We felt we had to teach. We realized that the profound scholarship of which we had heard so much, meant something; that the dignity which he had enjoyed in his native land, meant something; that he had a right to be heard, and a civilization behind him; that when we met him it would have to be on more equal terms than we had thought.

In regard to those deeper thoughts and feelings of which we would gladly know so much, little can be said. It is, perhaps, not strange that he should have spoken to us, as he did, with perfect fluency, on the deeper and more difficult themes. Then, too, there is a certain reticence in regard to these subjects peculiar to the Chinese. Perhaps, too, he felt that, in the great sage, Confucius himself, confucius had a strong religious faith. He appealed to heaven for his support. Yet when he came to ask for the deeper utterances, matters about heaven and the future life, he had no answer. Upon such subjects he did not like to speak. So this modest and honest scholar, who, we know, has shrunk, like his master, from the discussion of themes in regard to which we perhaps sometimes speak too freely. But we know what his ideal was, and how faithfully he seemed to live up to it. Let us remember that to the religion of Jesus is reached a height that is reached by no other religion, yet all must admit that there are lessons to be learned from the life of the Christian Chinaman; that thus the follower of the teachings that may seem to us less complete may stand higher than one who follows less carefully a pattern that may be in itself more perfect.

Dr. Everett then read several selections from the New Testament, and a number of extracts from the sayings of Confucius and his disciples, the latter incoming the following:

Tze-Kung asked, saying, "Is there one word which may serve as a rule of practice for all one's life?" The master said, "Is not reciprocity such a word? What you do not want done to yourself do not to others."—From the Confucian Analects.

"Life is to me, and I suppose to others, a burden. If I cannot help the burden, that I will bear it as one and choose rude tenacious.

"I know life, indeed, but there is that which I like more than life, and therefore I will not seek to possess it by any improper way. I dislike death indeed, but there is that which I dislike more than death, and therefore there are occasions when I will not avoid danger.

"Among the things which man likes there were not two which he likes equally—than life, which should be preferred to right, and therefore there are occasions when I will not avoid danger, and there are nothing which he dislikes more than death, which should be not disliked equally with the avoidance of wrong, and therefore there are occasions when men by a certain course might preserve life and they do not, and yet I will not avoid danger, and they will not.

"The superior man knows that which they like better than life, and that which they dislike more than death. They are not peculiar to the wise and virtuous, but all men have this mental nature. All men have it; what believes to another is simply that they do not love it.—From the Works of Mencius, Book VI., Part I., Section VII.

"Let man be reverent! Let man be reverent! The way of heaven is evident. And its appointment is not easily perverted. Let me not say that it is not, and I may be in error. It ascends and descends about our doings. It daily inspects us wherever we are.—From the Shu-king.

The services concluded with the singing of Whittier's hymn: "Oh, sometimes there gleams upon our sight," and the benediction. The remains were taken again to the residence of the deceased, from which, it is understood they will soon be sent to China. The widow will probably leave for home in about three months. The two older sons of Professor Ko were made mandarins by the Emperor of China in gratitude for their subscribing an amount equal to $500 each to the poor in the north of China during a recent famine. It is usual to grant the title for intellectual attainments only.

Balls of the Past Week.

Everybody reads the graphic ball reports, which are a specialty, in the *Sunday Mercury*. They are unrivalled. Harry Hill's reminiscences in to-morrow's *Mercury* are also especially interesting.—*Adv.*

Sick Headache.

MRS. J. C. Henderson of Cleveland, Ohio, writes: "The use of two of Pierce's 'Pleasant Purgative Pellets' a day for a few weeks has entirely cured me of sick headache, from which I formerly suffered terribly, as often, on an average, as once in ten days." Of all druggists.—*Adv.*

Weak Eyes, Sore Eyes, and Inflamed Eyelids, Styes, &c., rapidly cured by using Dr. Becker's celebrated Eye Balsam. Sold by all druggists. Depot, 9 Bowery.—*Adv.*

HOW TO PREPARE POULTRY.

THE PRODUCE DEALERS ARRAYED AGAINST THE CONSUMERS.

Major George S. Leland Before the Aldermanic Committee—Quaint Letter from a Kentucky Millionaire—A Question of Interest to the Housekeepers of New York.

Aldermen Levy, Hawes, and Robert E. Roosevelt met in Room, No. 8 of the City Hall yesterday at noon to receive testimony bearing on the question of drawn or undrawn poultry. The wholesale dealers in the undrawn birds were out in force, but Major George S. Leland of the Sturtevant House was the only one who appeared on behalf of the consumers.

Mr. John A. Willett, a Jerseyman doing business at 169 Reade street, presented a resolution passed unanimously at a meeting of members of the Butter and Cheese Exchange, protesting against the passage of a law prohibiting the sale of undrawn poultry as detrimental to the interest of both dealers and consumers. The Exchange had about 800 members, and at least 200 were present when the resolution was passed. Mr. Willett dwelt on the immensity of the poultry business in this city. He said that during the holidays the daily sales averaged from 400 to 500 tons, and $100,000 a day changed hands. He admitted that if drawn poultry could be brought here within twenty-four hours after it was killed, it would be all right. After that time, however, it would not keep. He did not pretend to know why it would not keep. He merely stated the fact. The amount of poultry required for consumption in this city could not be brought here dressed without spoiling. There was no demand for dressed poultry. After the passage of the law in Boston and Philadelphia forbidding the sale of undrawn fowls the dealers were unable to supply the demand, and they were actually coming to this city for supplies.

"How much of the poultry sent here is consumed here?" Alderman Roosevelt inquired.

"About nine-tenths," was the reply.

"How long does it take it to reach the city?" asked Alderman Levy.

"It generally comes here from the West in five or ten days," Mr. Willett said. "When the entrails are removed directly after killing the fowl begins to sweat, and sours inside within forty-eight hours. I know of nothing to stop it, and have tried nothing."

Mr. Cornelius B. Brower of 68 Warren street said that for nine years he had been receiving consignments of both drawn and undrawn poultry. The latter was almost unsalable. It brought a lower price. When undrawn chickens were selling at 9½ cents a pound by wholesale dealers, drawn chickens would not bring more than 6½ cents per pound. With undressed turkeys at from 11 to 13 cents a pound, you could buy drawn turkeys at 10 cents per pound. You can't get butchers and grocery dealers to buy the drawn birds. They are afraid that they will spoil on their hands. The licensed venders appear to be the only retailers who buy them, and they get rid of them as quick as possible. You couldn't sell drawn birds from Rhode Island for as good a price as undrawn birds from Iowa.

In answer to questions from Alderman Roosevelt, Mr. Brown said that he knew of no poultry that had been prepared for cold storage. He thought that if charcoal was used they would spoil all the sooner. He had heard that drawn birds were sold in Southern markets, and he had heard that lots of them spoiled on the hands of the dealers.

"Are all the Southern markets then, deal in drawn birds?" Alderman Roosevelt inquired.

"Because, I suppose, they have never tried the undrawn birds," Mr. Brown replied. "I know that I have repeatedly shipped undrawn poultry to southern and western markets. I have been in business here for years, and have an extensive acquaintance with dealers, and I know of no wholesaler or retailer who does not favor the sale of undrawn fowls."

"Yes," Alderman Roosevelt remarked, "that may be true enough, but what do consumers? I have received many letters from them, and have talked with scores of others, and they all, without exception, favor drawn fowls."

"They probably think that they will get the drawn birds at the same prices the undrawn," Mr. Brown said.

"I think not," the Alderman replied. "It is the quality and flavor of the fowl more than the price. They tell me that an undrawn bird may look plump and fresh on the outside, but when they come to open it they frequently find it a putrid mass, and the whole fowl is tainted."

"Well, now," said Mr. Brown, "that disagrees with my personal experience. I live up in Forty-fifth street. The other evening I invited some friends up to dinner. We had two fowls for the occasion on the table. They looked excellent, but they were absolutely tasteless and without flavor. All the company remarked it. I asked my wife about it, and came to find out, they had been drawn and washed five days before they were put on the table. I ordered that we had a goose for dinner. I dressed it myself. It was an undrawn fowl, killed eight days ago, and it was sweet and palatable. There was some undigested food in its crop and gizzard, but its entrails were comparatively empty."

"I would like to know," said Alderman Roosevelt, "that farmers usually load up the crops of their fowls on the night before they are killed, so as to make them weigh heavier."

"They used to do it," Mr. Brown responded; "but it's not done so much now. Some are not feed for twenty-four hours before they are killed."

"When they are overloaded with food before killing, their crops and gizzards sour and taint the fowl," Alderman Roosevelt observed.

Mr. Wm. S. Okie, a Jerseyman, in business at 265 Washington street, corroborated what was said by Mr. Brown in regard to sales. He had never seen any one who did not prefer undressed to dressed fowls.

"Again I assert," interrupted Alderman Roosevelt, "that I have yet to meet the first man or woman in private life who does not prefer drawn to undrawn poultry. All are not prepared to dress fowls."

Mr. James B. Laing, a Long Island gentleman doing business at 300 Washington street, corroborated the statement of his brother dealers. He was certain that undrawn poultry was best, and he was equally certain that the consumers would have to eat it or go without.

A gentleman strongly resembling Gen. Philip H. Sheridan then took the stand. "I have been buying poultry for the last thirty-two years," he said.

"Who are you?" one of the poultry dealers asked.

"My name is George S. Leland," he replied. "Over thirty years ago I kept the Clinton Hotel in Beekman street. I am now one of the proprietors of the Sturtevant House. You will know me better anon, gentlemen. (The dealers whispered together.) I have used in my hotel quantities of drawn poultry from both the East and the West, and I have always received an good condition. I have every right believe that I can ship drawn poultry from St. Louis and Chicago to this city in refrigerating cars, the same as beef, for $2.50 a hundred. It will keep just as long as undrawn poultry and be in much better condition. Three of the dealers here have taken notes, and a fourth left his apartment. There is no excuse for selling undrawn poultry in this market. My doctor assures me that it is as unhealthy as sewer gas. It creates diphtheria and a train of attendant diseases, including the stealing of the brain."

The Alderman immediately became deeply interested.

"Any housekeeper," said Major Leland, "can instantly detect the difference between drawn and undrawn fowls. It is the seller who wants undrawn birds, and it is the consumer who wants drawn birds. There are about 1,250,000 people in this city, and probably 500 dealers. The dealers here to-day represent themselves, and claim to represent nobody else. I claim to represent myself and the 1,250,000 consumers. We want drawn fowls."

To show what conscientious men who raise fowls think of the business, the Major had a letter from Col. D. B. Bell of Lexington, a Kentucky millionaire, read. The following are extracts:

"It was taken the New York hotel proprietors a long time to detect the stolen fowls, but they have arrived at a sound conclusion. I raised a thousand chickens the past year, and I feed them all the corn they can eat, and I never shipped a pound; and made money at it. I shipped 300 to Boston dressed, and drawn, for 12½ cents a pound. So you see I know something about the poultry business. I hope that Major Leland will keep stirring up the sellers of undrawn poultry with a sharp stick until he tests them from the market. I never in my life saw a fowl in the New York hotel that was not a little tainted, because the fowl had not been drawn when killed.

The dealers essayed a sarcastic laugh. "I may as well right here parenthetically remark," the Major observed, "that Col. Bell invariably stops at one of the best hotels—the New York Hotel." Alderman Roosevelt roared, Alderman Hawes laughed, and Alderman Levy smilingly tapped his ear with his pencil. The reading of the letter was continued as follows:

"So I sincerely hope that this will soon be remedied. I live three miles out in the country, and have plenty of fresh fowls, butter, eggs, and milk. I also raise as fine beef as you ever saw, but it wouldn't amount to much if it was not drawn when killed. And I raise a few fine cochinchinas and trotters. I raised four jacks the other night, and raised merry Christmas among the boys when they cracked me. Come out to Kentucky, and let us show you New Yorkers how to live and enjoy yourselves."

"If every dealer in undrawn poultry had as clean a conscience as Col. Bell," Major Leland observed, "the world be wiser and better, and there would be more ozone and less sewer gas. Now, I want to excite your ideas over an experiment. Yesterday I weighed an undrawn turkey. It hit the beam at ten pounds and an ounce. Well, I dressed him. I yanked off the head and the legs and tore out the entrails, and he weighed just seven pounds and two ounces. The waste, you see, was about a fifth of the gross weight. Well, after the turkey I tackled a Washington Market chicken. Undressed, the chicken weighed four pounds and seven ounces. Cleaned, it weighed three pounds and seven ounces, nearly a quarter less. I fed and his crop stuffed with corn until it was as tight as the Paris money market. They had fed him over night so as to make him weigh more when he was killed. Any housekeeper will tell you that three-quarters of the chickens they buy are stuffed in the same way. Now, what is the inference? Isn't it as plain as the nose on your face? The dealers say that the consumers want drawn poultry, because they think they will get it at the same price as undrawn poultry. I say that the dealers insist on selling undrawn poultry, because they get more profit out of the entrails and the corn granaried over night in the crop as they get for the meat. And it don't need a Philadelphia lawyer to tell which is right."

"Wherein does drawn poultry differ from undrawn?" Alderman Roosevelt inquired.

"It has a better flavor," the Major responded. "Come up to the Sturtevant House and I'll show you."

Major Leland said that he bought his drawn poultry in Boston, Chicago, Canada, Springfield, and, at times, in Washington Market. It was shipped to him on ice.

A dealer said that undrawn poultry could not be shipped without ice, and sometimes it was difficult to obtain ice.

"Not in the Northern poultry raising States," the Major responded.

The dealers insisted that if poultry came here frozen it must be kept frozen until sold, and that would enhance the price. They could ship undrawn poultry as freight from Chicago and St. Louis for 82 cents a hundred, and it would cost $2.50 if sent in refrigerators. Major Leland said that the same rates would apply to meat. Meat shipped outside of refrigerators might go as freight at 82 cents a hundred, but he didn't think the consumers would rush for it, or that it would be decidedly healthy after it reached New York.

Signor Giacomo Geninazzi, chief cook of the Sturtevant House, said that he had spent seven years in Newgate Market, London, and had always bought drawn poultry in that time. Undrawn birds were sold, he said, without stripping of the feathers. All picked fowls were drawn when killed, and all unpicked were sold uncleaned. Signor Geninazzi said that he had visited the markets of Paris. In that city the entrails, head, legs, liver, heart, crop, and gizzard of a fowl were thrown into a pile and sold separately. The fowl was cleaned when purchased, and the consumer got the clean meat for his money. The same custom prevailed in Germany. It was the same way with game. In Paris, London, and Berlin a great many live fowls were sold in market. The percentage was a great deal heavier than in this country.

As the Signor left the room a dealer turned to Major Leland and said: "That Italian does credit to your feed. He looks well."

"Yes," the Major replied. "He eats the drawn birds, and escapes the effects of sour crops and gizzards. You would look much better, I think, if you were feeding at the Sturtevant House. If you could see what I see at Washington Market every morning, you might become somewhat interested. Before daylight this morning I saw them sponging the undrawn birds of the unhealthy sour moisture that exudes from from the skin. If they had hung them up dripping with night sweat no one would buy them. No, sir. They put a chicken out and take it in, and they put a turkey out and take it in day after day like old clothes in Baxter street, until it falls a prey to some licensed vender."

"Or is canned and sent out on the plains," a dealer suggested.

Another commission merchant declared that the law in Boston was almost obsolete. One-half of the poultry sold there was undrawn.

An adjournment followed, and Alderman Roosevelt went home to watch the decaying turkeys hanging in his pantry.

FAILURE IN THE LARD TRADE.

One of the Largest Houses in the United States Compelled to Suspend Payments.

V. W. Maclarlane & Co. of 19 South William street, one of the largest lard refining houses in the United States, suspended payments yesterday afternoon. The failure was not announced until after business hours, and was a surprise to every one. The firm made an assignment to Charles E. Taylor, who formerly dealt with it. Mr. Taylor is a son of the Rev. Dr. Taylor of the Broadway Tabernacle. No preferences were given. The liabilities and assets of the firm could not be accurately ascertained last evening. The liabilities are estimated at about $250,000, and the assets at about $400,000. The liabilities are mostly due in this city. The firm consisted of Victor W. Maclarlane and James C. Atwater, a special partner, who invested $50,000. The capital of the firm has been rated at from $300,000 to $500,000, and its credit has been very good. It started about six years ago at 129 Pearl street. It has a large refinery at Fourteenth street and Tenth avenue, which is valued at $80,000. Its suspension is said to be immediately due to inability to realize upon stock on hand to meet bank paper. This inability arose from the decline in price and the effor