ITALIANS IN POLITICS.

THEIR VOTE IN THE CITY, AND HOW IT IS EXERCISED.

The Growth of Italian Immigration—Its Strongholds in the Town—Crowding the Irish in the Sixth Ward—Foremen and Bankers—What the Future May See.

Among the numerous callers at the Republican National Headquarters during the Presidential campaign of 1872 was an Italian gentleman who came to suggest the propriety of organizing the Italian voters in New York city in the interest of Grant and Wilson, the Republican candidates of that year. He found it necessary to call several times, and, after much delay, his proposition was finally accepted, and the sum of $150 appropriated by the committee for the task. A head quarters was opened on Houston street, and addresses were delivered and speeches circulated in the Italian language. The whole number of voters of Italian birth in this city at that time was 500, and through the efforts of the Republican leaders a large majority of these voters were secured for their side. The Democratic managers thought this body of voters so insignificant in numbers as to be unworthy of any special attention.

Beginning practically in 1871—it was in July of that year that the capital of Italy was transferred from Florence to Rome—emigration from the various provinces of Italy to New York city has increased with marvellous rapidity. At first the increase was gradual, and prior to 1879 it exercised small influence on the voting population of New York. Of late, however, not only has the emigration from Italy been increasing in volume but those who arrived here some years ago are past the years of probation, and are becoming citizens. It used to be the fact that most of those who came here from Italy were unaccompanied by wife or family, and their expressed determination was to gain enough money from their labor, at the higher standard of compensation paid in the United States, to enable them after a few years to return to their native land with a competency. Nowadays, however, they are guided by no such purpose, but come here to stay, bringing with them their families, or, if not so favored, getting married after a comparatively brief residence here. At the present time the Italians are relatively increasing much more rapidly as voters than any other sort of the population of the city of New York, and the problem is presented of what is to be their future representation. Twenty years ago, and for many years before that time, the Sixth ward, which includes within its boundaries the City Hall, the Tombs, and the Five Points of warlike memory, contained a larger proportion of Irish-born voters than any other election district in the city. It was their particular stronghold, and the list of leaders who hailed from it—Matthew T. Brennan, Wm. Walsh, Morgan Jones, and Joseph Dowling were among the number—cut quite a figure in the politics of the past. In the enumeration of qualified voters made by the State in 1865, there were in the district comprising the Sixth ward, of whom all but 589 were of foreign birth, and nine-tenths of them were natives of Ireland. An Italian citizen in the Sixth ward in those days was regarded somewhat in the light of a curio-ity.

At the present time the Italians have a larger voting population in the Sixth ward than elsewhere in the city, and they are supposed to exercise a controlling interest in the politics of the Second Assembly district, which is made up entirely of the Fourth and Sixth wards. The Italian voters are not scattered indiscriminately throughout the district, but live compactly in a portion of it which may be said to have the old Five Points as its centre. Each year, as more of them become naturalized for participation, the area of their residence spreads, so that it now includes about half of the Sixth ward, and has jumped over across Park row into the Fourth ward as far east as Madison street. A line accurately bounding this territory would begin at the junction of Canal and Centre streets, extend down Centre to Pearl, so far as the intersection of New Chambers street, and thence through Madison, New Bowery, and Mott to Canal street and the point of starting. Below are in detail eight of the election districts of the Second Assembly wherein Italians are most numerous, and all of them are included in the district as above bounded:

Elec. Dist.	Ward.	Total Vote.	Ital'ns.	Others.	Polling Places.
4	Fourth.	390	30	270	52 New Bowery.
11	Fourth.	525	50	275	45½ Pearl.
16	Sixth.	297	102	195	66 Pearl.
17	Sixth.	556	291	155	29 Baxter.
18	Sixth.	825	197	128	40 Mott.
21	Sixth.	222	51	171	71 Mulberry.
22	Sixth.	391	54	237	137½ Leonard.
24	Sixth.	173	33	140	21 Baxter.
		2,399	717	1,582	

The Second Assembly district is not the only one in New York wherein the Italian voters are numerous, and are becoming influential, but their increase there is rather more rapid than in most other parts of town. There are many Italian voters in the Third Assembly district in and about Crosby street, in the Fifth Assembly district in and about Sullivan street, and in the Twenty-third district, between East 106th and East 111th streets in what is known as "Little Italy." In all, there are 5,000 Italian voters in the city, and the number of them is increasing at the rate of nearly 2,000 a year. They are extremely methodical in the exercise of the elective franchise, registering usually on the first day, and voting quite early in the morning. Their attitude in politics is controlled by two sorts of men—the "banker" and the foreman. The banker is usually the proprietor of a beer saloon in the basement of a tall tenement house. He has erected two counters, one on each side of the store, and facing each other. On the one side his barkeeper sells such beverages as may be called for, and he may have on hand on the other side a money changer's counter. Here cash is taken for deposits, postal money orders are bought, and money is taken for remittance abroad. There are over 100 of these "banks" in town, serving the purpose of "branches" of the larger institutions which are managed by Italians. The branch banker, who is the adviser and capitalist of the neighborhood, utilizes his extensive acquaintance when election day arrives, and in trusts his patrons as to the advantages of this or that course, being a partisan as well as capitalist, he has friendly relations with the various political magnates of his district, and he is able to discuss with them in English conventions which have never proved they might be, they could never discuss with the voters themselves in their Italian vernacular. The effect of it is that these voters generally act in concert, and determine, therefore, the result in the various election districts where they are sufficiently numerous.

In those districts where Italians are employed as workingmen, especially up town on new buildings and in the vicinity of the aqueduct, the foreman of the gang acts as a sort of political leader for his compatriot employees. He has it in his power to favor them and to keep them in work. He distributes their wages and keeps tally of their hours. In some cases he is in partnership with the contractor who boards them, and is thus enabled to have a powerful voice as to the way in which they are expected to vote. The fact that these gangs are not distributed about the city, but are usually housed in the immediate vicinity of their work, gives the men the opportunity of voting together, and without consultation with the voters of other nationalities, which would be certain to affect their choice.

Perhaps the strangest thing about the Italians of New York, as voters, is the circumstance that they have never supported and have never sought the nomination of a candidate of their own nationality, race, and speech. Even in those districts where the Italian vote has been for some time past sufficient to turn the scale in favor of either party, there has been no thought of nominating an Italian, and the fact that, when once the suggestion was made it produced such an outburst of opposition from the Italians themselves that it was abandoned in short order, and has never been revived since. So long as it is a question of supporting a candidate not of their own nationality the Italians are as voters practically united; but so soon as any question concerning them directly is at issue they are apt to view they immediately separate into two hostile camps, the differences between which have been inflamed and fanned for years by the two Italian daily papers of this city, which voice the sentiments and appeal to the threats of the two antagonistic factions. It is the general opinion among the Italians that the most representative of the leaders of the Italians in New York that, should their compatriots become too active participants in an election contest, the number of hostile camps would not be restricted to two, but would be increased by other questions of inveterate rivalry and antipathy. The Neapolitans, Sicilians, Neri-Italians, those from Sicily and the other from Lombardy, have matters in dispute which are historical, and the demon of controversy once started among them, it is difficult to tell what would be the end. The list of Italian residents in New York who are prominent in professional and mercantile circles, as physicians, lawyers, editors, and business men is a long one, but it does not include any of those who are influential in shaping the views of their compatriots where political questions are concerned. Their leadership is not sought, and the views to which they give expression are generally speaking, not shared. The Italian voters look to the banker or the foreman and they in turn take their cue in politics from the Irish or Irish-American ward leaders. Indeed, it is a fact that although the rank and file of Irishmen in New York are much opposed to the Italians as a class, and although the sentiment is reciprocal, Irish leaders are the only ones who are possessed of the skill and judgment necessary to handle with success Italian districts and to acquire and keep the confidence of these voters. About the only Italian who has taken more than a subordinate interest in local politics is John Cangnaro, who is in the machine business in Centre street, and who resides in Macdougal street, in the Fifth Assembly district.

While there is no present prospect of a more active part being taken by the Italian voters in New York in political affairs, various circumstances indicate that this state of things is not to be permanent. The great mass of these new voters are laboring men, having not for the time, the means, nor the intelligence to engage largely in political affairs. But with the growing up of the second generation, with many men of the Italian colony aide from their savings to abandon manual labor and to become householders and taxpayers, a change is probable. The rapid increase in the number of Italian voters is already working the transformation of some of the down-town districts and when the city comes to be reapportioned, as it must soon, the new boundaries are quite apt to throw so many Italians into one district as to give them an absolute numerical advantage in it. That done, it does not seem probable that men of their own race will be wanting to become leaders and to turn their vote to best advantage.

As the field of industry in which the Italians here are engaged gradually expands, the necessity of their active, if not protective, legislation will become evident. The board of Aldermen has control over the ordinances connected with the streets and sidewalks of the city. The most eligible corners are given over to temporary stands of fruit dealers, bootblacks, and newspaper venders. The whole number of these, as shown by a recent official report, is in the vicinity of 4,000, of which more than 3,000 are held by Italians under special city permit. In February last Alderman Fitzsimmons, who represents a district in which Italians are as rare as snakes in Ireland, introduced a bill which gained the concurrence of the other Aldermen, calling for the passage of a law in Albany which would exact an annual tax from each of these permit holders, and would limit in effect the conduct of such business to those who were citizens. Nothing came of the proposition, but there is little doubt that it will be renewed, and, when renewed, stir up the Italians to measures of defence. They will of necessity organize to the support of Aldermen in those districts where they are numerous, and a political organization once begun in New York does not generally stop short at Aldermen. Whether the Italians will in the future exercise in New York the political power and influence to which their numbers entitle them is a question concerning which it would be difficult to make any reflection now. But that they are growing in knowledge of American ways and customs, in familiarity with the language, and in the perception of the value of citizenship, as well as in numbers, is evident enough, and, for aught that anyone can say now to the contrary, the standard of Humber may, before long, supersede the harp and shamrock even in the old battleground of the Sixth ward.

A GARRISON FOR ALASKA.

The Possibility that a Small Force of Troops will be Established in the Territory.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—There appears to be no specially urgent reason why a memorial should have been drawn up in Alaska at this time, asking the Government to station a regular garrison there. It is true that the little Pinta is just now away from her usual moorings in Sitka harbor, but her absence is due solely to the repairs which she is receiving at Mare Island, and when these have been made she will be found at her customary station, affording the Territory of Alaska such protection as her four howitzers and her officers and crew can give. The Thetis is also away, having left Sitka June 8 on her cruise to Point Barrow. She is a somewhat larger vessel than the Pinta, and carries two Gatling guns and a Hotchkiss rifle. She, too, after her service in erecting the house of refuge at Point Barrow, will be back at Sitka again, returning about the 1st of November. However, the absence of these two vessels, occurring while the revenue cutters Bear and Rush had not yet arrived from San Francisco on their usual summer visit and patrol of Behring Sea, evidently gave Sitka a sense of defencelessness which expressed itself in a plea for a permanent garrison.

There are some reasons for believing that the petition may be granted, if not immediately, yet after no very long delay. When Alaska was purchased of the Russians, two companies of the Twenty-first Infantry were established at Fort Wrangel, and Gen. Jeff C. Davis was made commander of the military district. Fort Wrangel had been a Russian trading post, and besides the troops Congress gave an annual appropriation to an industrial training school there for native youth of both sexes. The withdrawal of the garrison a few years, and the abandonment of the school on the stopping of the appropriation, helped to put an end to Fort Wrangel's dreams of future greatness. It was argued that there was no need of troops in Alaska, and that it was useless to go to the expense of transporting them and their supplies thither and of keeping them in a kind of exile there.

It must be admitted that during the many years which have elapsed since their withdrawal there has been little or no need of a garrison in Alaska, yet gradually changes have come about. To begin with, there is less urgent need of troops elsewhere than fifteen or twenty years ago, and the great Northwest was troubled with Indian wars, and was far less settled than now, it seemed a waste to take away two companies for Alaska, whereas now the latter represents a frontier of civilization if there is one anywhere. The Territory has also advanced in population and wealth. Gov. Swineford estimates the white population in his last annual report, at 6,000, and there was hardly a tenth as many when the troops were there. A great mining interest has grown up, with some large settlements like Juneau. Sooner or later a population of this sort, surrounded by a large native population, will require such military protection as has been habitually furnished to larger communities elsewhere. The seal fishing controversy had nothing like its present importance at the time of the withdrawal of the troops. Of course the international questions involved in it are not to be affected much by the presence or absence of a two-company garrison for this enormous coast line; but the presence of a Government force might be useful in certain contingencies. Again, land in Alaska has hitherto been held in public, with no method of obtaining title to any other than mineral claims; but when taxes begin to be levied and titles established, disputes will arise, and in the multitude of these fully there may be dangers of disorder. Still another source of possible trouble is the disputed boundary between Alaska and British Columbia, and it so happens that a part of this boundary is in the mining region, and rival claims to jurisdiction there will result. These points are independent of the expediency of being prepared for Indian hostilities, peaceful for the most part as the Indians during twenty years have been.

The trip to Alaska has become a favorite one of late years, and should the question of special appropriations for our Alaska garrison come up in Congress it will find some members, including the Hon. Tom Reed, able to speak of the Territory from personal observation.

Trees Growing on a Court House Tower.

GREENSBURG, Ind., July 27.—Greensburg has long been noted by the singular phenomenon of trees growing on the Court House tower. The first tree made its appearances in 1864, a tiny green shoot on top of the tower, and was the cause of much wonder and interest. Its development was eagerly watched, and, as its steady growth continued, became known as the Lone Tree. As years passed, the little tree assumed greater and more graceful proportions, and continued in spite of its lofty position, exposed to wind and storm. Other trees have since made their appearance on different sides of the tower, until there are now seven. While making the repairs on the Court House, now in progress, a scaffolding was built around the tower, and the largest tree was reported to be six inches in circumference and 5 feet in inches high. No damage was being done by them, and it was decided to allow them to remain, as the crevices in the stone coping made by the roots of the trees show an opening of only 1½ inches. The tower is 125 feet high, of solid masonry, and how the trees find nourishment to sustain them is a matter of great wonder.

Vassar College Suing the Executors of Jacob Gerard, Jr.'s, Estate.

POUGHKEEPSIE, July 27.—Vassar College, through counsel, has commenced a suit before the Surrogate to recover $5,750 bequeathed to the college by the late Jacob Gerard, Jr., the noted ornithologist. Jacob Gerard, Jr., died in 1880, and it is said that, because of certain complications, there has been an accounting every year since. In his will he gave the college $30,000 to endow a professorship of natural history, $2,000 for the purchase and mounting of specimens of North American birds, and also $2,000 annum for the same purpose. Counsel for the college argue that the executors are obliged to pay $250 annually to the college for the purpose named. The executors claim that it is discretionary with them whether they shall do so or not. The Gerard collection of North American birds at the college contains 6,000 specimens, representing seven hundred species, valued at many thousands of dollars.

Business Troubles.

Isaac G. Jenkins, an extensive dealer in lumber and shingles, doing business in Oswego and Olean, made an assignment yesterday. The amount of his liabilities and assets are not stated. The preferences are about $20,000.

KENTUCKY DEMOCRATS CRY FOR HELP

A Serious Appeal by the Courier-Journal that They May Lose the State.

LOUISVILLE, July 27.—When Treasurer Tate defaulted and absconded the Governor appointed S. G. Sharp to fill the vacancy, and now Mr. Sharp is a candidate for the office before the people. Mr. David Colston is the Republican nominee, and the election will be held on the first Monday in August.

Reports from different parts of the State indicate a lethargy on the part of the Democrats and activity on the part of the Republicans which are unwarranted on either side. The disappointment of tobacco manufacturers and growers at the refusal of the Democrats in Congress to repeal the tobacco tax, and the rapidly growing protective element who are dogedly dissatisfied with the free trade régime, together with the general conviction that the Democratic party in the State is dominated by a clique who care nothing for honest and businesslike local administration as long as they can frame free trade platforms and perpetuate the internal revenue oppression, have caused the lethargy which seriously threatens a great reduction of the Democratic majority if not downright defeat.

Realizing that a disaster in Kentucky will involve the rebuke of the free trade managers, the *Courier-Journal* has become frantic in its warnings and appeals, and declares in double leads that:

> Every attempt to arouse the various local committees throughout the State to united action has failed. Calls for meetings of the State Central Committee seldom bring together a quorum, save by proxies. Communications from the Chairman of the State Central Committee addressed to the Executive Committee rarely provoke a response. The effect is general demoralization and widespread apprehension of defeat.
>
> It is useless longer to conceal the situation.

This paragraph doubtless reflects the actual situation, though every prominent politician in the State has been put upon the stump and every effort made to arouse the rank and file of the party to energetic action. The Governor has lost the capitalist Blackburn has deserted Washington, McCreary and McKenzie and Jno. Young Brown and all the lesser orators have been speaking in court houses, under arbors, at picnics, and barbecues during this sweltering season, and yet such is the result.

There is no doubt, however, that the Legislature will be Democratic, though the majority will be reduced. In a recent conversation McCreary said he had "never known so many close contests in the legislative districts of Kentucky." The new Legislature will elect Blackburn's successor; and though the probable aspirants have not announced their candidacy, it is likely the contest will be spirited. Ex-Senator Pendleton, who is regarded as the shrewdest politician in the State, will likely be a candidate. He has been Governor, and has served several terms in Congress, where he succeeded Belmont as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations. He is wealthy, persevering, and patient, and one of the smoothest and most effective organizers to be found in Kentucky or out of it. The Hon. James McKenzie has already been named, lies from the southwestern part of the State, where much dissatisfaction exists because one Congressional district in the Blue Grass region has for years furnished both Senators. Carlisle is also spoken of, but it is not likely he will enter a heated contest, though it is believed he deserves the position.

With an approaching election result disastrously to the Democratic party, it will likely precipitate a revolution in party management. The "Kentucky idea" in favor of free trade will lose its prominence and be subordinated to other questions. Such men as William Lindsay and T. L. Hargis who occupy positions at the head of the party, will likely assume a prominence from which they have hitherto been excluded by the dominant clique.

All cliques and cabals have acted like those that dominate here till the eve, till the very morning of their fall. There is deep dissatisfaction, and it is growing deeper and wider every day. It is increased by every railroad that is built, by every mine that is opened, by every solar that is put in motion in factories. It must and will find expression, if not in the party, outside of it, as when a number of life-long Democrats in Louisville went to the polls and voted for Harrison.

OYSTER CULTURE IN NEW JERSEY.

Experiments Made by State Biologist Nelson.

NEW BRUNSWICK, July 27.—Prof. Julius Nelson, the biologist of the State experimental station, is an enthusiast on oyster culture. He is now conducting a series of investigations in reference to breeding oysters which are likely to prove of great value to oystermen. It is well known that only a very small proportion of the spawn of an oyster lives. Not only are the young oysters destroyed by their many enemies, but storms or a sudden change of temperature destroy them by wholesale. Being unable to move, the young oysters are smothered in the mud. The Professor believes that the first need is cultivation. He has enclosed ponds at and near Keyport, into which the sea water enters only at the highest tides. A sluice gate keeps on the water when the flow occurs. Into these ponds the mud and roe are placed and fertilized artificially. By this means it is possible to control conditions so perfectly as to secure a temperature of the water as to insure the fertilization of nearly every egg. It is in contemplation to try cross fertilization, and the Professor is confident that the result will be satisfactory, and that in the near future people will speak of the "breed" of oysters as they now talk of the breed of hogs or cows.

Prof. Nelson is now working on the idea of constructing a number of galvanized wire netting or planting purposes. These crates are to be dipped into a viscous paste of clay, lime, gravel, &c., and will be used as spat collectors. As the oysters grow, the crates, which may be attached to stakes, may be taken up and placed in deeper water, and put further and further apart until the oysters are marketable.

There were 2,052,000 bushels of oysters marketed in this State in 1887, over one-half of them being Maurice River Cove and Delaware Bays. In that locality there are 60,000 acres of natural beds and 10,000 acres of planted grounds. The production in other parts of the State was as follows: Raritan Bay, 100,000; Keyport, 262,000; Perth Amboy, 60,000; Barnegat, 20,000; Manahawkin, 10,000; West Creek, 60,000; Tuckerton, 30,000; Absecon, 60,000; Pleasantville, 70,000, and Cape May, 60,000. This year there were no sets in Newark Bay, and the Raritan River is also depleted. The average price is about $1 a bushel, and the average yield about $140 an acre, about 60,000 people being supported by this and the clam industry.

To Enforce the State Banking Laws.

ALBANY, July 27.—The Superintendent of the Banking Department is determined that the act of 1885, which prohibits a person or persons not subject to the supervision of the Banking Department from using a business sign or letter heading that indicates that his or their place or business is the place or business of a bank, shall be observed, and is in communication with several District Attorneys touching the prosecution for the $1,000 penalty for its violation. The law was urged that the latter part of the law of 1885, which exempts persons doing a banking business at the time of its passage from the above penalty is unconstitutional, and that it affects all private bankers. This question is now under consideration.

For the Defence of Father McFadden.

The County Donegal Association of this city, of which Mr. Patrick Brennan is President, is bestirring itself to raise money for the payment of counsel who are to defend Father McFadden and nineteen Gweedore Irishmen in their trial at Letterkenny for the alleged murder of Constable Martin on Sept. 1 last at Derrybeg. Mr. Brennan says that subscriptions may be sent to Father John F. Dunn of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Vermont avenue, Brooklyn, who is acting as treasurer with the consent of Bishop Loughlin, or to Father Charles McTeasty of the Church of the Holy Cross in West Forty-second street, this city.

The List of Referees.

These referees were appointed in cases in the state courts in this city last week:

SUPREME COURT.

By Judge O'Brien.

Cases.	Referees.
Moorehead agt. Kearney	J. J. Delaney.
Warren agt. Mahoney	J. B. Schenck.
Master of Wards	E. G. Stedman.
Taylor agt. Warner	S. E. Brownell.
Ives agt. Ives	John H. Judge.

By Judge Ingraham.

Cases.	Referees.
Equitable L. A. Society agt. Mad. Cock	George P. Webster.
Ashton agt. Allaban	Henry Wood.
Weaver agt. Thurber	Jacob F. Miller.
Keatley agt. Quinn	Jas. H. Hyslop.
O'Connell agt. O'Donnell	J. S. Cram.
Eade agt. Eade	C. H. S. Townsend.
Lawrence agt. Lawrence	A. S. Martin.
Hillenbrook agt. Deane	David McGuire.
Lawrence agt. Dressler	C. S. Truax.
Odell agt. Wethore	John H. Hogan.
Hecker agt. Sexton	H. W. Schmitz.
Cruser agt. Platt	James Hunter.

By Presiding Justice Van Brunt.

Cases.	Referees.
Berry agt. Berry	Abram King.

By Judge Ingraham.

Cases.	Referees.
Crimmins agt. Meyers	Eugene Durnin.
Frank agt. Davis	E. I. Oldham.
Mutual Life Ins. Co. agt. Bleson	Chas. A. Jackson.

SUPERIOR COURT.

By Judge O'Gorman.

Cases.	Referees.
Matter of Andrews	John Whalen.

By Judge Lange.

Cases.	Referees.
Fiske agt. O'Kane	Louis Stockler.

COMMON PLEAS.

By Judge Bookstaver.

Cases.	Referees.
Horgan agt. Kelly	Jos. S. Bosworth.
Murray agt. Smith	Edwin B. Tucker.
Weringer agt. Wolfinger	Max Rajesdorfer.
Willetts agt. Fielsted	C. F. Bauerdorf.

A MILL A WORD MEANS LOSS.

THE WESTERN UNION'S PROTEST AGAINST MR. WANAMAKER'S ORDER.

President Green Denies the Postmaster-General's Assertion that Many Corporations are Served at the Rate Proposed.

On June 29 the telegraph companies received word from Postmaster-General Wanamaker that all Government despatches for the ensuing year must be taken at the rate of a mill a word. This has provoked some lively correspondence since then, and the Western Union especially has been protesting vigorously against such action. By a letter of July 3 Mr. Wanamaker, in answer to the earnest request of the companies, agreed to suspend his order, which was to have gone into effect on July 1, until arguments could be submitted by the telegraph companies. On July 11 Dr. Norvin Green, for the Western Union Company, wrote to the Postmaster-General giving reasons why it was impossible to transmit the Government's despatches at Mr. Wanamaker's figure, except at a loss, and protesting that each telegram sent out for the Government cost the Western Union on an average twenty cents. Only a curt acknowledgment came back in answer to this.

When Mr. Wanamaker finally gave out in his circular of July 13 that his reason for fixing the rate so low was that various corporations were receiving as good terms the Western Union people were mad. They denied that any corporation was receiving such favorable terms under the same conditions, and a letter was written to the Post Office Department to that effect, but no answer was received. President Green waited until yesterday, when he sent this short letter to Mr. Wanamaker:

"*The Hon. John Wanamaker, Postmaster-General.*

"DEAR SIR: Pending our correspondence in respect to your notice of the rate to be fixed for the Government telegraph service, I have not given any information of the questions raised, nor answered any inquiries of newspaper reporters in respect thereto for publication. But your circular to the telegraph companies of July 13, in which you say "that the rate proposed was upon information furnished to this (your) department that your (our) company has been making rates to various large corporations that are in some instances as low as the figures now proposed for the Government service" is without foundation in fact. I know of no instance in which any corporation, large or small, has a rate for telegraph service that averages one-half as low as that fixed for the Government service annually since July of 1884.

"I did not intend that in the language 'various large corporations' you could have referred to the press associations, for very few, if any, of these associations are incorporated, and the larger of them I know are only private associations, and yet, nevertheless, after explaining to you that our so-called free service to a limited extent for railroad companies was paid for in kind by the free transportation of men and material, services of their railroad operators, and in most instances the furnishing of labor and other assistance in maintaining the lines, I went on to say that 'our lowest rates should not be those for the press associations' offices for publication. It is not an exactly service, but is in a great measure a deferred service, mostly done at night, and the great bulk of the reports are sent to a large number of places simultaneously by one sending operator. This is a service of great public interest toward which we have contributed largely, frequently without compensation, but it could not be for any compensation therefor. For some years we have distributed the President's message over the wires and given it to every daily newspaper in the country without charge. During the protracted illness of President Garfield, and later of Gen. Grant, we sent out the daily bulletins of their condition to all parts of the country free of charge, as we also have frequently distributed the doings of large political or benevolent assemblages. I cannot conceive why the Government should treat this class of service as a measure for fixing the rates for Government messages."

"I might have added that in every scourge of yellow fever and cholera, and in every devastation by flood or fire, we have volunteered public information and for private relief a large amount of service without charge. In the late great disasters at Johnstown and Seattle our entire available facilities at those places were given to public use for several days. But it had never occurred to us that the Government was in such sorts as on this account required its service to be done practically for nothing or without paying a just compensation therefor, as I believe the Constitution and the laws intended and will compel it to do.

"Except the arrangements with railroad and transportation companies referred to, and rates for press and commercial news service, we make no reduced rates to any corporations or other parties, large or small. For no services transmitted and delivered to a single address the Government is our only customer that enjoys reduced rates.

"As to the great privileges and benefits derived by this company from the act of 1866, they are purely imaginary. I am not aware that we have ever taken a stone or cut a tree or timber or appropriated a foot of land belonging to the Government under that act, and where we have needed to build a line across lands belonging to the Government, as in a late instance across the lands along the canal around the Falls of Ohio, we have had more trouble and delay in procuring the right to set our poles than if the lands had belonged to private parties. I have the honor to remain, most respectfully yours,

"NORVIN GREEN, President."

One of the officials of the Western Union said yesterday that the service for the Government had been kept up as usual since July 1, but as the suspension of the Postmaster-General's order still held good, the company didn't know what the rate was to be. THE SUN'S informant said however, that Wanamaker still persisted that it would be no alternative but to submit and do the business at a loss. The statement of Mr. Wanamaker that the company is serving corporations at the rate proposed is stoutly denied by the officers of the company.

Commissioner Gilroy's Expenditures.

Commissioner of Public Works Gilroy made his first quarterly report to the Mayor yesterday. It shows that the department has been very busy. The expenditures were: Appropriation account, $7,013,000.02; to all improvement fund, $335,316.63; Croton water fund, $19,[illegible]; special fund for restoring pavements, $8,56[illegible]; water meter fund, $[illegible]; to all, $1,18[illegible]. Sixty contracts were entered into, estimated cost, $694,[illegible]; fifty-nine contracts were completed, total cost, $252,765.51. The total revenue was $[illegible].

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

New York Stock Exchange—Sales July 27.

UNITED STATES AND STATE BONDS (IN $1,000'S).

9 N. C. spl. tax	67½@68

CLOSING PRICES OF UNITED STATES BONDS

	Bid.	Asked.		Bid.	Asked.
U. S. 4½s	109¼	109¾	U. S. 6s 1895	118	—
U. S. 4s	109¾	110¼	U. S. 6s 1896	121	—
U. S. 4s, c	125¼	126¼	U. S. 6s 1897	124	—
U. S. 4s, c	125¼	126¼	U. S. 6s 1898	127	—
			U. S. 6s 1899	130	—

RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS (IN $1,000'S).

3 Atl. & Pacific 1st	105¾	8 Ohio, Ind. & W. 1st	84
7 Brooklyn El. 1st	112¾	2	60½
4 Chic. & Pacific	110	4	63½
6 C., R. & Q. ill. N. ex	94¼	3	63½
2	94¼	5 Ohio, Ind. & W. 2d	35½
19 Can. So. 1st	106	5	30
8	106	1 Rh. & W. P. T. vtg.	31½
8	105	1 Leading gnl. 4s	91
1 Cent. Pac. g. 6s	115	10	98¾
7 St. L. A. & O. M. div	101½	1 Sioux Cy. 1st	93
1 C., L., St. L. & C. 4s	102	2 So. Pac. of Ariz. 1st	111
5 D. & Rio G. W. 1st as.	75	4 So. Pac. N. Mex. 1st	103¾
7	85½	5	103¾
1 Erie con. 2d	103	2	103¾
1 El. West'n ex.	103¾	1 So. Pac. of Ariz. 1st	100
5 Ken. & Ten.	95¼	6 St. P. & C. 6s	104¾
10 Ken. & T. gen.	69	6 St. P. 1st C. & P. W. d.	127
1 Lake Sh. 2d	107	10 S. C. R. R. 1st c. off.	96
14 N. Y. Ch. & St. L. 4s	94¾	20	96
6	95¼	2 Tex. Pac. 1st s.	89½
9	95¼	3 Tol., A. A. & G. 1st	111
2 N. Y., O. & W. 1st	114¾	10 Tol., A. A. & G. 2d 1st	70¾
3 Or. R. & N. con. 5s	105	2 Union El. 1st	105½

Total sales of railway bonds (par value), $255,000.

RAILROAD AND OTHER SHARES.

Sales.	Name.	Opening.	High'st.	Low'st.	Closing. Bid.	Closing. Asked.
100	Adams Express	140	140	140	140	141
5	American ex.	118	118	118	118	120
320	Atch., T. & S. Fe	35⅝	36	35⅝	35¾	36
10	Atlantic & Pac.	6¾	6¾	6¾	6	6¾
200	Canada Southern	55¾	55¾	55¾	55¾	56
50	Canadian Pacific	55	55	55	55½	55½
200	Central Pacific	34½	34½	34½	34½	35
940	Ches. & Ohio	22⅛	22½	22	21½	22
3,400	C., B. & Q.	91¾	91¾	91¾	91	91¾
100	C. & O. 2d pf.	35	35	35	34½	35
280	Chicago Gas	56⅝	56⅝	56⅝	56¾	57
2,730	Chic., C. C. & I. C.	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾
500	C., C. C. & St. L. pd	98¾	98¾	98¾	98¾	98½
200	C., B. & Q.	100	100¾	100¾	100¾	100¾
600	C., M. & St. P.	69⅝	69⅝	69⅝	69⅝	69¾
1,000	C., St. P., M. & O.	57¾	57¾	57¾	57¾	58
170	C., R. I. & Pac.	94½	94½	94½	94½	—
10	Cin., W. & B.	1½	1½	1½	1½	2
5	Cin., W. & M. pf.	3	3	3	2	2½
100	Col. C. & I.	69¾	69¾	69¾	69¾	70
100	Col. Hock. Coal	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	28
100	Consol. Coal	25	25	25	25	27½
3,600	Del., Lack. & W.	140¾	144½	141	143	143¾
100	Den. & R. G. pf.	50¾	50¾	50¾	50¾	51
800	Green Bay & Win.	4	4⅛	4	4	2½
125	Iowa Cent. pf.	20	20	20	—	21½
120	Lake Shore	101⅝	101⅝	101⅝	101⅝	101⅞
210	Long I. & Nash.	69	69	69	69	69½
100	Louis., N. A. & C.	40	40	40	39	41½
100	Manhattan Con.	93	93	93	93	94
800	Mil., L. S. & W.	91	91	91	90	91½

Sales.	Name.	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing. Bid.	Closing. Asked.
100	Mar., H. & Ont. pf.	98	98	98	98	—
35	Mil. & Nor.	55	55	55	55	—
100	Mich. Cent.	86	86	86	87	—
100	Mil., L. S. & W. pf.	111	112½	111	112½	—
100	Minn. & St. L.	4	4	4	6	—
100	Mo., Kan. & Tex.	10¾	11	10¾	11	—
500	Mobile & Ohio	12¾	14¾	12¾	14¾	—
100	New Cent. Coal	9	9	9	9	—
1,000	N. Y. C. & H. R.	245	255	245	255	—
100	N. Y., C. & St. L.	16¾	16¾	16¾	16¾	—
100	N. Y., C. & St. L. pf.	69	69	69	69	—
100	N. Y., C. & St. L. 2d	34	34	34	34	—
100	N. Y., L. E. & W.	3¾	3¾	3¾	3¾	—
100	N. Y., S. & W. pf.	31⅝	31⅝	31⅝	31⅝	—
300	Norfolk & West.	14	14	14	15	—
100	Norfolk & West. pf.	50¾	50¾	50¾	50¾	—
100	Ohio Southern	16	16	16	15	—
100	Ontario & Min.	34	35	34	35	—
100	Ontario & West.	16¾	17⅛	16¾	17⅛	—
100	Oregon Imp.	55	55	55	55	—
100	Oregon R. & N.	94¾	95	94¾	95	—
100	Oregon S. L.	46	46	46	49	—
100	Peo., Dec. & Evan.	20¾	21¾	20¾	21¾	—
100	Pullman Palace	178	178	178	179	—
100	P., Ft. W. & C.	157	—	157	—	—
100	Pullman Car	182	184	182	184	—
100	Quicksilver	6¾	7	6¾	7	—
100	Quicksilver pf.	38	38	38	38	—
100	Rens. & Sar.	138	135	138	135	—
100	Rich. & Alle.	1⅛	2⅛	1⅛	2⅛	—
100	St. L. A. & T. int. pf.	109	111	109	111	—
100	St. L. & S. F.