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[From the Albany Daily Advertiser.]

Festival of the Opening of the Boston and Albany Railroad.

The dinner given by the authorities of the city of Albany, to the Mayor and authorities of the city of Boston, and other invited guests, on the occasion of the turning of the great railway communication between the two cities, took place at Stanwix Hall, on Friday afternoon.

Gerrit, the company, numbering about 300, sat down to the entertainment, prepared by Mr. Landon, in the great assembly room of the Hall.

The room, with its noble dome and beautiful finish, was brilliantly lighted and handsomely decorated. On the south, and above the presiding officer and the honorary guests, was a full length portrait of Washington, with the banners of the Hibernian and St Andrews' Societies on either side; and on the north side, in front of the chair, the arms of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with portraits of the two first Governors of the State of New York, Geo Clinton and John Jay, and those of De Witt Clinton and General Gansevoort underneath. On the east side, in front of the orchestra, was the arms of the city of Albany. At a table ranged along the south side of the room, were seated the Mayor, with the Mayor of Boston at his right, and the Governor of New York on his left, and the Lieut. Governor, the Boston guests, and the chief officers of our State government, on either side. At right angles with this table ran seven parallel tables, at the head of each of which sat the Vice Presidents of the day.

The President, Teunis Van Vechten, Mayor of the city, presided, assisted by Aldermen Wilson, Chapman, Jay, Beecker and McElroy, and by T. W. Olcott, and Samuel Cheever, Esq'rs

STANDING TOASTS.

1. *Judicious Internal Improvements*—Sources of individual wealth, and ligaments of national compact.

2. *The City of Boston*—The Cradle has become a Fortress of American Liberty—may the mines of the West never fail to supply it with ammunition.

Mr. Chapman, Mayor of Boston, rose amidst deafening cheers, to acknowledge, he said, the very kind and flattering manner in which the Mayor of Albany had been pleased to allude to the city he had the pride to represent. He had been received here, and for the not less kind and hearty manner in which the sentiment had been reiterated, not only by the city authorities and citizens generally, but by the city authorities and citizens generally of Albany. I confess to you, said Mr. C. addressing the chair, that we, who have come here to participate in the celebration—perhaps I ought to speak for myself—have found ourselves in a state of amazement. I had heard of the Western Railroad project, for several years; I knew that it was to connect our city of Boston with Albany. Yet I did not realize, till I came here, the magnitude of the great work which has brought us so all together. It seems to me like the result of magic. Heretofore, although two hundred miles have separated our city from mine, in spite of the community of language and feeling, not to say similarity of character, there subsisted between us; although the Dutchman and Yankee have been any thing but difficult in getting up a match;—yet, apparently impassable mountains have stood in the way of our union, and (hard hearted giants that they were) have emphatically forbidden the banns. [Cheers.] Centuries have rolled on, and we found us wide asunder, though not strangers to each other. But such has been the magic influence of the spirit of the old Yankee enterprize, united, that even the giant mountains, though guarding his back with the frost of a Siberian winter, that we might not cross over, has compelled to yield. We have cut our way through his side, and we stand along side of you, near neighbors and friends. [Cheers, long and loud.] I have said that this scene was magic. It is so in reality. Boston and Albany stand together shoulder to shoulder, or permit me to say, a little more familiarly, cheek by jowl. [Here much of what the speaker said was lost from the continued cheering and from the confusion of sounds in the hall.] When we each of us, hands, sir, if I understand the great enterprise whose completion we are celebrating, we celebrate results in anticipation. So far from ceasing, they will not begin to be developed in your life or mine. I ask whether, under all your attachments to your city, you do not feel, in view of the fact that she is on the great thoroughfare between the east and west, that she assumes a character well known to you before. This is the absorbing idea to my mind. To my mind, sir, that union is effected, the consequences of which none can foresee. If I may be permitted to speak of our own State, which has imbibed and retains a portion of that spirit on her granite hills, which requires a world as its field of enterprize, and is satisfied with nothing less—at all times the home of industry, the seat of capital, manufactures and commerce—under all her disadvantages otherwise, you see her advancing with all her energy towards that iron causeway that locks your State with the illimitable west. It has been my privilege to have gone through the western country. I have looked upon its vegetable seas of waving grain; I have felt with what a lavish bounty nature has favored a country which may be said to have been only as yet; and have felt the importance to the east, of mingling up with all these natural gifts, some little infusion of the result of New England enterprize, industry and art. [Much more was said to this point, which was imperfectly heard.] We are at the very gate of the west, and is it not right and proper that the Capital of the west should extend to us that hand of fellowship? I have said, continued Mr. C., that this is the absorbing idea that interests my mind. But I cannot sit down without saying that it is from no feeling of jealousy or hostility towards our friends, the citizens of the commercial capital of New York—of the Union, that we celebrate this event.—There may be between us a spirit of rivalry—a rivalry, however, that only shows how proud we are of her existence—a spirit which has in fact made her what she is. Is not the world large enough for both? May not the Yankee and the Dutchman combine their means and their energies in one section of America, without impairing the commercial ascendancy of New York? Does it follow that whatever the combination may do for the one, it must detract from the other? The very reverse. I, sir, am proud to say that I glory in my fellowship there upon her triple hills, an object of admiration and of just pride to all her sons. I am proud of her history, interested in her well being, and I rejoice in every thing fraught with good to her. At the same time I look beyond these mere local considerations and attachments, and I can say from my heart, long live New York! [reiterated cheers.] Long may the kind Providence that gave, continue to it its advantages of position. Never may that enterprise flag that has made the proud city she is. Is there a rivalry between us? It is that manly, large, generous rivalry that can respectfully regard the interests of others, while it pursues its own. Let this spirit of rivalry never cease; but let it be to cherish every effort that has for its object the promotion of local interests, and of consequence the common interests of our common country.

Union of New England with the West through the City of Albany—Achieved by mutual enterprise; and cemented by mutual interest. May it last for ever.

3. *Our Guests*—The honored representatives of a sister city, between whom and us distance is no longer section: we welcome them as friends, and rejoice in them as neighbors.

Mr. Dexter, of Boston, responded to this toast, in an animated speech. He concluded by giving the following toast:

The Great State of New York—The enlightened policy which guides her councils, dictates the removal of obstacles from a route which lengthens her commercial year from seven months to twelve.

Massachusetts—Liberal and far seeing, but discriminating, in the great policies of the day.

Mr. Attorney-General Austin, of Boston, when cheering had subsided, rose to acknowledge, so far, he said, as he had the authority to speak for his fellow citizens of Massachusetts, present and absent, the kind manner in which the old Commonwealth had been alluded to in the Capital of New York. For he must confess for them, though they were a proud people—proud of the reputation they enjoyed abroad—proud of their history, from the Pilgrims—the rock of ages—and Bunker Hill—the Sinai of their veneration—I cheer upon the—proud of their institutions of learning and of—of their enterprise which, though their lot is—soil and in a cold climate, has overcome—pioneer—proud of their manufactures and commerce—and, he must be permitted to say, not without—elevated, for them they were not less proud of—that combination of enterprise and capital—exhibited in springing that great arch, with—miles, which had brought this city, separated—naturally, from Boston by that great distance—in a space that might be accomplished by the—winter's day [cheers.] And, sir, (continued Mr.—) it seems magical. It is the magic of the mind—of the spirit—of that mighty faculty by which the creature—distinguished humanity. When we look at the—rapidity of movement by which a large portion of this great company have been transported from Capital to Capital in a single day, it is impossible not to cast our eye back to the relative position of Albany and Boston in years gone by. One of our city churches has, on its records, an incident that happened there a little more than a century ago, which serve to mark the contrast between the states of things then and now. A resident of the town of Boston had occasion, in the prosecution of some little enterprise of his own, to visit the "far west," and the extent of his destination towards that far west, was the town of Albany. [Laughter.] A wonderful undertaking this, in those days, as will appear from the preparation for it, which is matter of record, as I have cited. This adventurous Yankee first settled all his worldly affairs [renewed laughter.] He took a parting leave of his wife and children [roars of laughter.] And went took the last step which, according to the simple usage of those days, brought his name and his enterprise on the church records. He put up a written notice, in the usual form, asking the prayers of the church, and invoking the blessing of Heaven on his distant journey. [Cheers and laughter.]—I have said that our citizens were proud—proud of their position in the centre of New England—that is some thing. They are not less proud of their neighbors of the great "Empire State." (Cheers.) In looking back at the progress of internal improvement, it is with grateful pleasure that they recollect that the first movement towards this last enterprise originated here. Aye, sir, by this very capital—and it is impossible for a citizen of Massachusetts to forget one most distinguished and eminent citizen of New York, who led the way, as pioneer, in this great work. I am fully aware that the great man to whom I allude, was involved, in his life time, in the asperities which grew out of the political strife of his day. But time has had the effect of the great one to soften these asperities of feeling. The time will no doubt come when all these things will be forgotten, and the recollection of them effaced from the memory of man—when it shall no longer be known, what party the great leader of internal improvements was attached—and when the force of truth and history, powerful above all other and minor considerations, shall cause to be remembered and cherished the name of De Witt Clinton. (Cheers—the whole company rising.) This may be but the beginning in the march of greatness to which this country is destined. This great nation, like those of South America, which existed before the memory of man, may live only in the remains of the great structures of canal and rail way which our enterprize may achieve. But when the traveller that survives the wreck, goes over this now flourishing country, green perhaps with a new growth of wood, in search of memorials of a by-gone generation—then will not these iron roads we have made, tell a story of spirit, of energy, of power, which we may well desire to see perpetuated! Permit me (concluded the Attorney General) to give

The memory of the Great Man who was the pioneer in the great work of internal improvements. (Drank standing, and in silence.)

5. *The State of New York*—Among the first to apply to the highways of freemen the auxiliaries of steam, the railway and the canal. She seeks not pre-eminence, but an equal and mutual interchange of good gifts.

Governor Seward, upon this toast being drunk, (which was done with much enthusiasm,) rose and said:—

I confess to you, sir, and to this goodly company, composed as it is of many of the most eminent and enlightened men of two great states, that I feel an unworthiness to speak of or for the state of New York. I would dare to speak for modern times—I might dare to speak for my own generation—but oppressed, as I am, with the recollections—stirring recollections—of the better days of this great state, under the better auspices of men, whose very names have awed this festive meeting into profound silence—I feel that I am unworthy to speak for New York, concerning her moral, physical or intellectual improvement. If I were not born, I was brought up, a sceptic on the subject now brought home to us. Of all the achievements of my youth, the bravest, that I now recollect, was one that I undertook near the close of my collegiate life. This achievement consisted in the production of an essay, in which I demonstrated to my own satisfaction, that the Erie canal project was an impossibility, and that if it could ever be completed, it would involve the state in ruin. [Laughter.] And here I am to make my confession, standing, as I do, self convicted of the inconsistency of having at middle age, so far gone to the other extreme, as to have recommended not merely an enlargement of that channel to twice its original capacity, but also the construction of three great lines of railways, to accommodate the excess of travel and transportation between the seaboard and the broad west [renewed laughter.] The enlargement goes on triumphing over all obstacles, one of the railroads is already yielding rich tribute, and another is half accomplished. These remarks may not be without interest to our friends of the East, as indicating the confident belief entertained here concerning the profitableness and usefulness of their enterprise.—But, continued the Governor, this is no time for any mere local reminiscences. It is an occasion on which private feeling and local jealousies and interests, as well as State pride, might well be excluded. All such feeling should be lost in the sentiment that another bond is added to the union of these free States. The citizens of Boston have a higher subject of reflection and consolation even than those so justly insisted upon by my learned friend (Mr. Austin). Massachusetts, after being the first to give the impulse to the ball of independence, comes forward now in an hour of trial, to maintain with her indomitable energy, the only policy that can bind together that confederacy, which, but for the patriotism of a Hancock and an Adams, would never have had existence. I am proud as any citizen, for whatever New York has to be proud of. But when I recollect that although we have heretofore done much, yet that we are now faltering in a progress that has been one of constant triumph—I feel that Old Massachusetts will gain the highest honor by that firm faith and steady perseverance so necessary now to prevent the country from falling from the course of high enterprise which it has hitherto pursued. But the occasion does not call for argument in favor of internal improvements so much as social congratulation upon the event we celebrate. I will, with the permission of the company, read a letter, which perhaps is the earliest authentic record to be found of an arrangement, with a view to an improvement of the internal communication between N. York and Massachusetts. It bears date, "Fort James, (now the city of N.York) 27th December, 1672," just 169 years before the arrival of our guests from the Bay State by a railway journey of eleven hours. The letter was written by Col. Francis Lovelace, then Governor of this colony, to the Governor of Massachusetts. [It announced His Sacred Majesty's commands that the colonies should enter into a close correspondence with each other; and that to accomplish that purpose, Governor Lovelace had established a post to proceed on horseback once every month to Boston, allowing two weeks for the journey and an equal time for returning.] We may not, said the Governor, speak disrespectfully of all this. The letter, simple as it is, is full of wisdom, rendered simple only by the experience and acquirements of 169 years. In the royal injunction to the colonies to enter into an intimate correspondence, is found the germ of that policy—that mighty policy—which has made those provinces free and independent States—the first movement of the nations towards constitutional liberty! Aye, it might mortify statesmen to remember that this first lesson upon internal improvements comes to us from the most dissolute period in the history of that most dissolute monarch, Charles the Second. If to Governor Lovelace belongs the honor of conveying his Majesty's commands to the colony of Massachusetts Bay, to cultivate friendly relations with New York, it seems to me that our guests on the present occasion may be considered as bringing to us the response of the old Bay State; and if it has been long delayed, I think we must all agree that it is satisfactory.

Governor Seward gave—

The States of Massachusetts and New York—Since they have combined in the prosecution of internal improvement, may they become rivals in maintaing the public faith, and the integrity of the Union.

6. *The Western States*—The germs of great commonwealths—the treasures of whose soil will continue to flow in, as from an exhaustless granary, through our great natural and artificial channels.

7. *Perpetuity to our Glorious Union*.—Railroads and canals the physical, and the legacy of Washington, the moral means of preserving and consolidating it.

8. *The City of New York*—The commercial metropolis of our country, with whose prosperity every portion of our state is identified.

9. *The Western Railroad Company*.—They have opened a road from Boston to Albany, destined to reach, by the way of Buffalo and Chicago, to the Mississippi.

Mr. Quincy (President of the Western Railroad Corporation,) responded to this toast, which was warmly received, to show how little, he said, the gentlemen referred to had had to do in the construction of this public work. It had been an arduous work; but it had been brought to successful completion because sustained by the citizens of Boston and by the power and wealth of Massachusetts herself. And as so much has been said (continued Mr. Q.) in praise of the Yankees of New England, I know I is all be pardoned by those present, if I advert for one moment to what has been done by Albany. This city has borne an important part in carrying forward this work in which we so much glory. From the beginning, Albany has been the pioneer in this enterprise. It has been said, that at the period of our revolution, the Yankees thought there were but two classes of foreigners—Englishmen or Frenchmen. It might with equal truth be said of the people of the colonies, that, every body was then either Yankee or New Yorker. Very few Yankees then came to Albany, for if they had, they would have come again. Who was, the first man in Massachusetts who urged this great question on the state? He was not a citizen of Albany, but he was one who for years made it his residence. He was a man whom many here knew, and as many loved. Need I mention the name of Theodore Sedgwick (Cheers.) He it was who first advocated this measure in the legislature of Massachusetts. He it was who urged it on. I know that he went back and forth between Albany and Boston several times on this business. I know that he labored in season and out of season, until they were almost ready to exclaim, thou art beside myself—much learning hath made thee mad! And he might have replied, in continuation of the quotation, I am not mad, but speak the words of truth and soberness; and many years will not pass be one every man, women, and child will be not only almost, but altogether such as I am, on the subject of internal improvement. He, sir, had as much of the Christian Patriot and gentleman in his composition as any man on earth. Like the Prophet, he was permitted to see the good land which his fellow country men were to enter, though he did not live to witness the full accomplishment of his wishes.—This was the first effort towards it. For a time, it encountered delays. We found it difficult to carry it through. I am free, sir, to say that there was a sort of Yankee prejudice at that time, against Dutchmen. They thought Dutchmen were prejudiced against them. They had read but little of Dutch history, and I am sorry to say that that history was that of the erudite historian, Diedrick Knickerbocker, and that they really believed what was there stated—(laughter) among other things that even Dutchmen of the present day, could not look towards the onion fields of Connecticut, without tears in their eyes. (Renewed laughter.) Well, Mr. Chairman, we found there was nothing in all this in due time. We got them together in Faneuil Hall—where we hope to see you all to-morrow night—[cheers.] It is a place that always goes ahead. Six years ago last September, it was noised abroad that a delegation was coming on from Albany; and it was rumored that a real live Dutchman was among them. [Cheers and laughter.] They had heard that the people of Albany were part Yankee and part Dutch. As to what Yankees were they could give a pretty good guess, but the Dutchmen they had a great curiosity to see. I remember as well as if it had happened yesterday, when there came forward on the stage at Faneuil Hall, at the time mentioned, a gentleman whom every man in Albany loves to honor, and whom every one that knows him cannot but love—a gentleman (methinks I see him now) with his green coat and sleeves slightly puffed up, bearing the real Dutch name of Hermanus Bleecker. (Enthusiastic cheering.) Well sir this Mr. Bleecker was liked by the Yankees, as he is and was by the Dutch. There was no great show about him. He did not talk in steppes and figures. He told us how the canal tolls had increased up to that time. He told us how anxious the Albany people were to come and see us. They like that Dutchman. (Cheers.) They said he was the right sort of man—he talks like some, all show and no gold, but all gold and no show. (Cheers.) In this manner, sir, we determined to start the enterprise. Every body took hold of it, and we had a good deal of encouragement. We came to these mountains we have heard described. It was pretty hard work to get over; but there was one little passage left. It was said that in the kingdom of Spain, a proposition was once said that in the kingdom of Spain, a proposition was once started to make a canal from some place to Madrid, and that permission was asked of his Catholic Majesty to make it. His reply was that if it was the will of the Almighty that a water communication should be there, he would have made a river for that purpose, but having made none, he thought it would be the height of impiety to make one. (Laughter.) Now when we came to these mountains, we had exactly the encouragement the Spanish king wanted. Here were mountains presenting insurmountable obstacles to a passage. But there was one place left in the chain, just wide enough, as it happened, and of the proper elevation. It seemed to have been made on purpose; and at length we came to the opinion that the world in general, and the county of Berkshire in particular, were made with express reference to the Great Western railway.—(Cheers.) We got along pretty well through these mountains; but while going on, plain sailing, we came to a little brook dividing New York and Massachusetts, and could get no further. The gentleman from New York, (Col. Webb) has alluded to what we have done in witchcraft. Now, sir, let me tell him that no witch ever crossed a running stream. I don't know but it is so with the Dutch, but I will say for the information of the gentleman, that though we have no longer any old witches, and those we have, have given up broomsticks and taken to locomotive—still we have some witches in Massachusetts, that are said, by the power of their charms, to be able to turn even a Dutchman into a Yankee. (Laughter.) Be that as it may—we got into the stream and could get no further. So we uplifted our voices, calling to our friends to come over into Macedonia—or Massachusetts—and help us. A response was made from Albany. They drew us with their bonds, and we could not but run after them. (Great laughter.) It is said by the wise king of Israel that a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches. Now I don't know that any body knows what kind of a physical agent he employed in building the temple; but this I know, that in building the western railroad, a good name has had the power of obtaining great riches from others, as my friend of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank (Mr. Olcott) perhaps can testify. (Cheers and laughter.) Well, sir, at last we got these bonds, and then we completed the whole thing over. For, as to building this railroad, I would say (if it were not for our engineer) that it was nothing but *Child's* play. (Laughter.) But it is done, and what are to be the results, no tongue can tell. These iron bars that extend from one capital to the other, will, in time of peace, transmit the electric spark of good feeling and good fellowship from this time forth and forever. And if the time ever should come, as it may come, when the city of Boston shall, as she has, call for the aid of her brethren, it will not be as formerly, a long and tedious journey over, requiring the spirit and courage of a martyr to undergo. There will be none exclaiming, then, "why tarry the wheels of the chariots?" No, sir; before even the power of steam could propel a vessel from harbor to river, we shall have the reveille of New York—we shall hear a cry from the Highlands of the Hudson, and it will be, sir, with a roar like thunder, with a celerity like lightning, that the plains of Saratoga shall send greeting to the Heights of Bunker. [Tremendous cheering.] But, sir, this is a railroad occasion, and, as I have learned, the most important of all things is to keep within time. If not, we may occupy the track when some other locomotive is on, and then there is apt to be a crash.—[Laughter.]—Therefore, I wind off by giving you

The States of New York and Massachusetts.—They have laid their heads together, and the result so much can exaggerate.

10. *The triangle*—New York, Boston and Albany—May their interests run parallel, and their jealousies never at a tangent.

Mr. Sedgwick of Massachusetts, (brother of the late Theodore Sedgwick) rose in response to the allusions which had been made during the evening, and especially by the last Speaker, to the agency of the deceased in the accomplishment of this great western enterprise.

11.—*The Governor of the State of New York*.

This toast was received with cheers, and Governor Seward spoke briefly, but was not heard by the Reporter.

12. *The Court for the Correction of Errors*—The highest judicial tribunal of our state.

Lieut. Gov. Bradish responded to this toast.

Liberty and law—That Liberty which the necessary restraints of Law permit—and that Law which the tendencies of Liberty unrestrained require; and without which even Liberty itself would soon become extinct.

This toast was drank with three times three, most emphatically given.

13. *The American Fair*.—They both toil and spin, yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

VOLUNTEERS.

Gen. Dix, of Albany, was here called out by the President, and came forward, warmly cheered by the company. He addressed the Chair as follows:

Mr. President,—It is but a few days since the descendants of the Pilgrims were celebrating the landing of their ancestors upon the rock of Plymouth. More than two hundred years have elapsed since these adventurous men planted the standard of civil and religious liberty upon the American continent. It is an interesting historical fact that the vessel which bore them across the Atlantic, was destined to the river Hudson; but through the ill-will and ignorance of the captain, (according to Bancroft, the eloquent historian of the colonization of the United States,) they were conducted to the most barren and inhospitable part of Massachusetts. If they had reached their intended destination, John Carver and his associates would have co-operated with the successors of Henry Hudson in laying, upon the banks of our own noble river, the foundations of that system of constitutional freedom, which their common descendants, a hundred and fifty years afterwards, pledged to each other their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to uphold. But time has accomplished, in one sense, the original design of the Pilgrims. The descendants of the colonists of Massachusetts and New York are now united upon the banks of the Hudson; they have become near neighbors; the distance of two hundred miles which separates the capitals of the two states, is, as it were, annihilated: the frosts and snows of winter are no impediment to their daily communications; and in summer they may leave their homes long after the sun has risen above the Atlantic, exchange congratulations midway, and sit again under their own roofs before he has sunk behind the western hills. We have heard much, this evening, with regard to the difficulties of intercommunication between the inhabitants of the two States in former times. Let me bring the detail down to a later period. I remember thirty years ago, when I was a schoolboy in Boston, how serious an undertaking it was, to get to Albany. There were two or three routes—all of them attended with their inconveniences and delays. First, there was the voyage to New York around Cape Cod, by packet; then there was the overland journey by stage to the Sound, then by packet to New York; and then a voyage by steam to Albany—for it was literally a voyage at that early period in the history of steam navigation. The expedition altogether required several days for its accomplishment. If the more direct and unusual route had been thought of, it would have presented itself under the aspect of days and nights of hard riding by stage, with the discomforts incident to that mode of conveyance, almost in disuse at present on the great thoroughfares of the country. Now, sir, suppose any one at that period, had been permitted to glance forward through futurity to the present, and had predicted that in thirty years the journey between the two cities would be compassed in eleven hours. If he had made such a prediction, he would hardly have escaped the imputation of insanity. Certainly no one would have believed that the prophecy was to be accomplished by human means alone. And yet it is accomplished, and by the aid of no other powers but the practical application of scientific principles, and the magic of New England's invincible energy and perseverance. In the year 1754 the delegates of the American colonies met in this city for the purpose of forming a plan of union. The object in view was to concert measures for their common defence; it had reference to the separation from the mother country, which grew out of subsequent causes of discontent. But through the habits of intercommunication and consultation, to which it led, upon questions of common interest, it may be said to have been the germ of the Congress which declared us independent of Great Britain, and asserted our right to be numbered among the sovereign nations of the earth. One of the questions disposed of at this meeting, was to fix a place for the future meetings of Congress under the proposed plan of union. When this question was under discussion, Dr. Franklin, who was present as a delegate from Pennsylvania, contended that Philadelphia was the proper place, on account of its central situation with regard to the other colonies; and, among other things, he said that the most distant delegates, those from New Hampshire and South Carolina, would be able to reach the place of meeting in fifteen or twenty days at farthest. From Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to Philadelphia, these fifteen or twenty days of travel are now shrunk to the narrow space of thirty hours. What a trophy is this in the march of improvement! What a victory over the combined forces of distance and time! What a triumph, by the application of the powers of nature over the obstacles which she has scattered along the path of life, as if it were to challenge the efforts of enterprise and genius, and to elevate the character of our race through our success in removing all impediments to the fulfilment of our destinies. If we turn from the past, and look forward to the future, who will venture to assign limits to our success in the application of great principles to the practical business of life? If we may measure the future by what we ourselves have seen and aided in achieving, what may not the next generation accomplish, unless we shall send down to them our inheritance of political freedom and social prosperity encumbered with burdens, which shall embarrass and impede their march in the career we have opened to them? Great destinies undoubtedly await us—greater, perhaps, than any one can well calculate, even if he were to make the past the measure of our future progress—destinies only to be fulfilled worthily by cherishing sound principles of action. With enterprise and industry directed by prudence and forecast, liberality without extravagance or profusion, a public credit maintained, by wise legislation, an ample provision of means to meet contemplated objects, and a sacred preservation of the public faith by a scrupulous discharge of all honest obligations—with these rules for our guidance, we may safely go on with the assurance that we shall have honor and prosperity for our companions.—But, sir, I am overlooking in these general views the immediate object of this gathering—of this union of the descendants and successors of those who, from the decks of the Half Moon and May Flower, first saw the shores of this continent, then bristling with forests, but now teeming with population, enterprise, and wealth, and embellished by all the arts of civilized life. There was a time in the early history of this country, when the arms of the two colonies were turned against each other in fraternal discord and enmity. At a later period they were struggling, side by side, in the great contest for independence, which gave us birth as a free people. This bond of association, the strongest that can exist between individuals or communities—formed as it was an hour of darkness and peril—has been strengthened by commercial ties, which the growth of the country has been constantly rendering more numerous and more intimate. In reference to this association, and more particularly to the communication, the completion of which we are now celebrating, allow me to offer, in compliance with the call made upon me:—

Massachusetts and New York—Connected by a road of iron—an emblem, let us trust, of the strength and durability of their union.

Love, Law and Physic.

At the Marine Court, on Friday, a trial "came off" before Judge Sherman, in which all the esotery—the secret mysteries—of love, law and physic, were fully brought to view; and which it becomes our duty to record. Of Cupid's movements we have not much to say, the urchin having resigned his claim in the premises to his fickle half-brother and companion, Hymen, whom he accuses of causing pleasure and pain, health and *sickness*, as may suit his caprice, to the many favorites whom he confides to his care. But there was a rich struggle for superiority between the members of the "learned professions." The young propounder and expounder of Blackstone exerted all his eloquence to draw from the accomplished physician his skill and knowledge, and hurl them at the plaintiff, (as Jupiter of old hurled the thunderbolt at Æsculapius,) for the science *he* displayed in the important work that he had taken in hand.

It was an action brought by Dr. Peter F. Clark, whose stately mansion is in Bleecker street, near the Bowery, against Ambrose Rikeman, a respectable butcher, residing at No. 5 Fifth street, to recover $100 for medical attendance upon Mrs. Rikeman, wife of the defendant. After the case for the plaintiff had been stated by Mr. L. B. Shepherd, his opposing counsel, truly with "trumpet tongue and words of fire," proceeded to the defence. The defendants in this suit are a young couple, respected, beloved, and worthy. Some four or five years ago they exchanged the position of lover and beloved for that sacred tie,

> Where bliss presides—where joys beguile—
> Where all the charms of virtue smile—
> Where heart to heart pure throbbings beat,
> Prepared life's rays or storms to meet.

They were married—happiness crowned their days and contentment smiled at their peaceful board. Health presided over their domicil, and care and sorrow were unknown to their abode. In the course of time two beauteous children gladdened the hearts of their parents, rendering their hearth and home still more endearing, and every thing went on smoothly and happily as a marriage bell. But alas! it was destined that there should be a change. Sickness was to visit that late happy home, and professional mal-practice, with subsequent tyranny and persecution, were to bear down upon them with their pestiferous blight. The learned counsel then proceeded to state his case. In the month of September, 1840, Mrs. Rikeman was visited, particularly after rising in the morning, with severe head ache and sickness at the stomach, accompanied by a furred tongue and nausea in the mouth, as if "she had been eating soap"—there was also a general swelling of the system, and a derangement of the vital faculties. Becoming alarmed, and somewhat suspecting the cause of her trouble, she sent to the plaintiff, requesting he should call and bleed her. The Doctor went, but declined bleeding, saying she had only a cold, which had settled down in her abdomen, and she must on no account be bled. He then ordered strong sweats of hot catsip tea and powders, and hot flannels to be constantly applied, and caused her stomach to be rubbed for four or five weeks with a *horse liniment*, composed of sugar of lead, vinegar, spirits of turpentine, and eggs. She was reduced very low by this means, and had to keep her bed part of the time, only getting up to the fire to be rubbed with the liniment. Still her system kept growing larger, and after she had been treated in this way for nearly two months the Doctor repeated his declaration that she had a severe cold, and that it had settled down in a "lump." He continued to give medicine, and caused her to be rubbed with the liniment, saying that the "tumour" in her stomach must be dispersed. About the middle of November she experienced that "life within her" which left no doubt in her mind as to the cause of her disorder, and told the Doctor that she was in the family way; but he replied that such was not the case—it was merely a movement of water—and continued his treatment as before. A consulting physician was called in, to whom Dr Clark stated that Mrs. Rikeman had bilious remittent fever. They continued to give her medicine and treat her in this way, and then wondered that the sick stomach should continue. She frequently told the Doctor that she was in the family way, but he answered that she was not, for if she had been so the medicine he had given her would have produced abortion. Finally, the "gentle movements" could no longer be mistaken for the movements of water, and, after weeks of unnecessary suffering, the doctor withdrew from the field, leaving nature and a good constitution free to repair the ravages, produced by "a want of skill," on the person of Mrs. R. In February her child was born, and had evidently gone its full time, but bore marks of the medicines and the treatment which the mother had received, and which had nearly been fatal to them both. The child, although at present nearly eleven months old, is but little heavier than children usually are at three or four, and will probably be weakly for life, while Mrs. R.'s other two children are remarkably healthy and active.

This, gentlemen, (addressing the jury) is the statement of the case. It is for "these days of suffering—these nights of pain," that we are called upon to pay, and to pay extortionately. Not satisfied with exhibiting ignorance or wickedness, a parallel to which has brought condign punishment upon the head of, I had liked to have said, many a better man, and which had nearly cost us our life, he comes here, gentlemen, asking *you* to reward him for his course. Dark, indeed, will be the day, when such conduct can succeed—gloomy and lowering the clouds that will spread, ready to burst in death and desolation, over our once happy country. But we fear not for the result. Appealing to this tribunal, a tribunal composed of twelve honest and honorable men, we feel that in it there is safety and hope. Instead of paying, we are eminently entitled to receive damages, and exemplary ones too. The matter is with you, and we doubt not, that we shall receive a triumphant acquittal at your hands. The learned counsel (Mr. Horatio Allen) made a speech worthy of a Demosthenes, and proceeded to call witnesses. Now commenced the struggle—the conflict of opinion between giant men—the anxiety and the earnestness of the respective counsel to draw forth from the witnesses whatever might avail in their own behalf, hardly permitting one question to be answered before another was asked. It was indeed a gathering of strength, an excitement, and a scene—

"When Greek meets Greek, then comes the tug of war."

Mrs. Powers sworn—This was a good looking, middle aged lady, the mother, and also the nurse of Mrs. Rikeman. She confirmed, in her testimony, the statement of counsel. Dr. Clark did not attend Mrs. Rikeman in her confinement.

Dr. Hubbard sworn—Was called in consultation with Dr. Clark to visit Mrs. Rikeman. Dr. C. stated that she had the bilious remittent fever; if such was the case, the treatment of Dr. Clark was correct, even if she had been in the family way; I should have so treated her for the bilious remittent fever under *any circumstances*. The liniment shown is composed of oil, alkali, and spirits of turpentine, and there may have been hartshorn, but if so it has evaporated.

By Counsel—Did Dr Clark tell you that Mrs. Rikeman was in the family way?

The question was objected to by defendant's counsel. Even if Dr. C. had told witness so, its only effect would be to implicate himself. He had declared to Mrs. Rikeman that she was not in the family way, and continued to give medicine which was calculated, as he himself avowed, to produce abortion, and was liable, if he knew her to be in the family way, to indictment and punishment in the State prison for that offence. The result was, that Dr. H. said, he himself observed to Dr Clark that Mrs. R. must be in the family way, but it did not appear that such intimation had been given by either to the family.

An attempt was also made to prove the excellent standing of Dr. Clark by the witnesses, but to this the counsel also objected. "What matters it to us," said he. "Suppose she had died under his treatment, or that he had administered a dose of poison, could his standing well in the community be any excuse for the act." Dr. Hubbard said that Dr. Clark stood high in the profession, and had been a practitioner of medicine for fifteen years.

By Counsel.—Dr. Hebbard, what do you know about the manner in which Dr. Clark treated this case?

Answer.—I only know from representation.

Question—Is steeping a pregnant woman with hot catnip tea, soaking her in flannel, and rubbing her with horse liniment, proper treatment?

Answer—In the early stages of pregnancy it matters very little, there is no medicine that is proper for colds or fever, that would place at hazard the life of the patient, or be likely to create abortion—nor even in the middle stages. I saw Mrs. Rikeman in October, and supposed that she was in the family way as a matter of course.

Dr. Anderson, (an aged gentleman) sworn.—If the disease was bilious remittent fever, from what I have heard of the treatment, it was correct. It was of no importance whether she was pregnant or not.

By Counsel—Doctor, do you consider his calling the lump a cold, and giving her medicine to scatter the "tumour," to be correct practice?

Answer—Every physician understands the mode of treatment with his own patients best. I do not know any thing about it.

Counsel.—You may go, Doctor; we don't want any thing further from you.

Dr. Joel Foster sworn—If the disease was remittent fever, the question of pregnancy would have made no difference in the treatment. Bleeding is oftentimes good and oftentimes injurious. It is not so easy to effect abortion as you may suppose.

By Counsel—When the disease was pregnancy, would you have resorted to the treatment that was shewn?

Answer—Pregnancy is not considered a disease.

Question—Is it not the duty of a physician, sir, to ascertain the complaint of a female before prescribing for her?

Answer—It is, as nearly as possible."

Question Is not ignorance, in a physician, as bad as intention? If he gave anything calculated to destroy life, would it not be bad practice?

Answer—I know nothing of the case but what I heard from Dr. Clark. I would reduce a fever as soon as possible. I do not think a medicine given in a remittent fever would destroy a child."

By a Juror—There is a regulation of prices by the Medical Society, from which physicians are allowed to deviate, according to circumstances. Thinks where a case is litigated, a physician should have more than where it is settled in friendship; supposes a dollar, or a dollar and a half a visit, to be about correct.

Dr. Taylor sworn—Doctor, you have heard the treatment in this case, do you suppose it to have been correct, and according to the practice you yourself would probably have pursued?

Answer—Being a married female, I should have been on my guard how I treated her; sickness at the stomach and headache are common symptoms of pregnancy; had I been called, I should have investigated the case further, and if I found it resulted in pregnancy, should have been very particular in my treatment; should look upon any other treatment as being highly culpable; had there been any doubt, I should have resorted to the tethescope, and if I ascertained that a woman was pregnant, I should have moderated my treatment; I should certainly not have treated her the same as if she was not pregnant; it would not be good practice to attend a pregnant woman for two or three months, and doctor her for "water;" thinks the plaintiff's saying the child was a lump, and must be doctored and scattered away, to have been very bad practice. [We need not say that these sentences are answers to questions propounded by the counsel; both *sides*, in general, being down upon the witness at the same time.] I should have ascertained what the lump was, whether it was dropsy, or abscess, or pregnancy.

Question—Was there danger of using liniment, such as this, in case of pregnancy?

Answer—If it was as active liniment, I should be afraid of its getting to the bowels and creating abortion. Spirits of Turpentine sometimes acts upon the womb. I should not have resorted to stimulating medicines, unless the fever was excessively severe. Doctoring for an entirely different disease from what the woman has, may induce a disease that was not previously in her system. Very strong medicines might produce abortion, and powders sufficiently powerful to scatter a tumor, might do so; but I do not know of any powders that would have such an effect.

Cross examined.—Headache and sick stomach are common to bilious remittent fever. Thinks disease might be produced by very active medicine, but do not think that bilious remittent fever could be so. That results from miasma or poison in the air. I do not think it could be acquired in any other way. Knows nothing about this case, but thinks from what he has heard in evidence, that if he were called to a female with such symptoms, should think her to be pregnant. There are certain points that cannot be mistaken. I can say nothing about this particular case. Was called upon by Mr Rikeman to testify. A physician can tell best about his own patients. Witness is 31 years of age. Has been nine years in the profession, and seven years in practice.

Dr. Post sworn.—Thinks the evidence of Dr. Taylor generally to be correct. Fever powders are such as to create perspiration, and would not produce fever. Bilious remittent fever arises from an impure atmosphere. Sick headache alone would not show bilious fever. With regard to hot fermentations they may be sometimes used in fever. Persons might give cathartics in fevers when not pregnant, that would not be proper when they are so. Powders that have a direct tendency to produce abortion, are not given in fevers. Thinks that if other practice was resorted to, it might injure the child and the mother.

Dr. Field sworn.—Did you attend Mrs. Rikeman in her confinement?

Answer—I did