NEW YORK HERALD.

New York, Wednesday, January 15, 1845.

☞ A full account of the duel between Messrs. Yancey and Clingman will be found under our postscript head.

Commercial State of the Country—A Storm Approaching.

The recent movements in the commercial world, both in Europe and America—the fall in the price of cotton—the vacillations in the position of the banks, and the currents and counter-currents in operation, present every indication to the philosopher and the statesman, that a storm is approaching in the commercial world,—partial, perhaps, it may be, but springing from the same causes, and producing similar results as the great revulsions of '37, '39 and '41. There is no use in mincing the matter when danger is ahead, and the only way to get through the difficulty is to meet it fully in the face. Let us come to particulars. One money market reports for some time past, have given evidence by their daily record of events in Wall street, that there were at work, in the commercial world, some great and primary elements of disturbance. These symptoms have now developed themselves in such a degree, that we are able to trace them to their origin, and to show the causes of anticipated dangers.

From the great revulsion of 1837 up to the year 1842, efforts were made to revive the trade of this country; but commercial affairs were so mixed up with political matters, and the conduct of public bodies in the repudiating States was such as to prevent any real or positive convalescence from taking place. In 1842, during a certain condition of the English market, a large number of the speculators and merchants of London, Liverpool, and Havre, entered very largely into the export of specie from those countries into the United States. By this large export they were enabled to come into the American markets, and, in a great measure, to monopolize them—to increase the current prices of the day—and thus realize immense profits. During this movement they availed themselves of the rise of prices produced by the very specie which they exported to this country, to get rid of the stocks which they possessed in the old world. This extraordinary rise in the cotton market, produced by the application of immense masses of specie exported to this country, created life and activity throughout the whole Southern, Western, and Northern country—gave an impulse to the banking institutions, and seemed at length to convince persons in commercial life that "good times" had again returned. Under this impulse the merchants of this country, of all classes, entered into the same movement; and believing that the country was bare of goods, they commenced a vast import of foreign merchandize, even in the face of an increased tariff, which laid the foundation of many of the subsequent effects that are now beginning to be felt by many of our commercial men. The extraordinary increase of our foreign imports during the whole of 1843, together with the increased product of cotton, occasioned by the high prices of '42—the immense amount of specie still remaining in the country, and thereby enabling the banks to extend their circulation—all concurring together, produced a slight overaction in trade and commercial affairs generally, which has been the foundation of the present reaction.

In addition to all the elements of disturbance just referred to, we have also to notice particularly the action of the General Government, and the surplus revenue at the command of the Treasury Department. From eight to twelve millions surplus revenue was lying for many months in the coffers of the banks, to the credit of the Government. This large sum was drawn from circles of commercial activity, and conspired, together with the fall in the price of cotton, and the growth of the foreign debt, to press upon the commercial interests with a more than usually complicated energy of character. Yet this surplus revenue, from its unfortunate position in speculative banks, was used for the purpose of advancing and bolstering up fancy stock, instead of enabling the regular merchants to meet their engagements abroad.

Thus it will be seen, by a variety of concurring causes, that the French and English speculators in American commerce, first stimulated commercial activity in this country by a vast export from their countries of specie here; and having accomplished their speculative purposes in that, the American merchants stepped into the same current, and without the same means to carry forward the movement of increasing prices, and of enlarging commercial operations, without the same power to control them. The result of that has been, that during the last nine months a re-action has commenced. The price of cotton has fallen—a demand upon the banks has been made for specie for the payment of the foreign debt—and all these causes are now producing in the large commercial cities—on whom the storm will fall—a degree of embarrassment that is anticipated with dread and alarm in every quarter. It is probable, that there is now a balance due foreign countries of from twenty to thirty millions, which cannot be met in consequence of the diminished value of American products in Europe, and the inability of Southern and Western merchants to pay those who supply them from the seaboard. We anticipate, therefore, for several months to come, a great pressure in the money market—a pressure that may produce many failures and bankruptcies—chiefly in the first instance of the weak houses—though we hope and trust, that those who have been conducting their operations with prudence, may weather the approaching tempest.

It will be observed that in these singular commercial movements, during the last two and a half years, very little effect has been produced upon them by the action of political events. They have, in fact, grown up without reference to political affairs, or parties, and are purely the result of the operations of one set of speculators in Europe, and another set in America, and proceeded in by persons quite ignorant of the correct principles governing all the phenomena of the commercial world.—If danger come—as it will, according to all appearances—the ignorance and folly of the banking interests are at the bottom of the whole.

If our financiers and bankers throughout the whole country were men of sound and philosophical views in matters connected with commerce, they might have seen some months ago the approach of the present crisis. Throughout last summer, we gave hem frequent warning, and even at a more remote period; but our banking managers were too ignorant or too indolent to pay attention to the warnings of intelligence and philosophy, as applied to the commercial phenomena of this country. We should not be surprised, therefore, if they got a lesson before the spring be over, almost as acute as that which they received in 1837. Take care—there are breakers ahead!

AFFAIRS AT THE EAST.—We are indebted to Mr. Tucker, the gentlemanly conductor of the Long Island Railroad, and to Adams & Co., for Boston papers of yesterday.

Another effort was made in Boston on Monday to elect a Mayor. It again proved unsuccessful.—The whig vote was 3,718; the democratic 2,066; the natives 3,993. Unless an arrangement is made between two of the parties a Mayor will never be elected in that city.

Snow fell to the depth of eight inches in Boston on Sunday.

A man, named Fanning, was killed yesterday on the Norwich and Worcester railroad. To save a short walk he jumped from the cars while they were going at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour; this caused his death.

MILITARY BALL.—The State Fencibles, a very gallant corps, give a splendid *soirée* at the Alhambra to-night.

THE ONDERDONK CASE REVIEWED—CHARGE AND EVIDENCE OF THE MISSES RUDDEROW.—As we proceed with the examination of this case, the views which we presented to our readers yesterday, in introducing and commenting on the testimony of Mrs. Butler, receive additional confirmation. The indiscretion of the Bishop—the ruthlessness and malevolence of his prosecutors—and the purity and excellence of the female witnesses, become more and more apparent. The second charge against the Bishop was grounded on the evidence of two highly respectable ladies of the name of Rudderow, residing on the upper part of this island at the period when the transactions complained of occurred. It was a very plain and direct statement.

* * * * * *

The solemn tones of the organ in a plain, but handsome country church, had just ceased to vibrate on the ear, and those who had assembled for worship, were now pouring out of the vestibule, or hurrying across the bright green sward which separated the sacred edifice from the public road.—Two or three children with fair locks streaming in the air, in the harmless levity of their age, were chasing a buterfly around a corner of the church, and their merry laughter, fell upon the ear, like pleasant music, awaking in older hearts the memories of other and happier years. Far away in the distance the spires of a great city might be seen glistening in the sunshine, and nearer, on the right, the waters of a noble river lay spread out like a sheet of silver, whilst all around cheerful-looking cottages and stately mansions could be seen gleaming from amid the fine old trees with which they were surrounded—soon, however, to fade away, with all their pleasant associations of the olden time, before the relentless march of metropolitan improvement. The whole scene was peaceful and attractive in the extreme; and there was a universal Sabbath stillness and repose, which insensibly disposed the heart to thoughts and emotions which were less of earth than heaven.

Almost all the congregation had dispersed, save a few of the elders of the church, who lingered at the porch to exchange greetings with a venerable looking man, whose grave and reverend aspect at once inspired respect. They talked together for a few minutes, and their converse seemed to have some reference to the sacred services which had just terminated; and as the old man turned away, his parting salutation had something in it of a patriarchal solemnity. He then walked across the green, and on reaching the gateway offered his arm to a lovely and modest maiden, who there met him with a cheerful smile, and whom he then conducted to a carriage, which stood close by. They entered the carriage which was driven slowly away, the old man and the blooming girl occupying the back seat, whilst the pastor of the church occupied the front seat, and drove the sleek and and well-fed horse. They had not proceeded far when the elderly gentleman whom we have just described, gently placed his arm around his fair companion. It was a simple action, and excited no remark—why should it? But by and bye the old man's hand was raised and placed upon the rounded shoulder of the lady, veiled only by a thin muslin shawl, and the next moment it had glided downward and rested on the soft and glowing bosom. There was a sudden start—a deep blush, which crimsoned the very neck—a violent heaving of that fair, pure breast, as if it were itself conscious of the insult—and the profaning hand was in an instant indignantly dashed aside.

* * * * * *

Could it be possible? The old man's hand again seeks that snowy sanctuary of maiden purity and maiden pride! Again, and with greater violence it is dashed aside.

* * * * * *

The carriage stops at the door of an elegant mansion. It is the lady's home. She is now under the roof of a brother, where the old man is received as an expected and honored guest. The maiden rushes up stairs to her chamber, and bursts into tears.

* * * * * *

It is a sad story. What comments can we make on it? We cannot, and need not say a word.

Meantime every day only strengthens our opinion as to the unchristian conduct of the prosecutors in this case, and the injurious effects on the great cause of religion itself which must inevitably follow these extraordinary developments. All sorts of rumors are afloat, relative to the progress and effects of the excitement within the pale of the Episcopal church itself. It is said that presentments are threatened against one or two of the Bishops who voted in the minority; and counter-actions are talked of against some who were most active against Bishop Onderdonk. We may thus expect a sort of mutual moral war amongst the clergy; and we should not be at all surprised if some further startling developments yet grow out of this singular affair, tending to show still more clearly and painfully the folly, intolerance, errors, and unchristian conduct of many of the clergy, and that religion is indeed often most deeply "wounded in the house of her 'professed' friends."

THE CITY REFORMERS.—The new party in the corporation seem determined to maintain their places, if effort can do it. Every now and then, the organs of his Honor the Mayor and the corporation, come out with some tremendous, astounding, extraordinary, wonderful, startling, thundering *exposé* of some of the past delinquencies of the old parties—or of the rascality of the Pope—or of the inexpressible vagabondism of the Germans or the Irish. We doubt very much, however, whether all this will blind the people of this city to the faithlessness and imbecility of these men during the past year.

Their last terrible *exposé* is that about the importation of emigrants into this port. No doubt a great many evils are perpetrated in these immigrations, chiefly on the poor people themselves, by rascally agents of all kinds—but as a general axiom it must be admitted that the immigration into this city and into this country is, on the average, infinitely more advantageous than injurious. A few thousands of the immigrants may be poor, and a few thousands may attempt to vote, and thus give a great deal of subject of complaint to the politicians, and those who have to support the poor. But the great bulk of the immigrants bring considerable property with them, and go into the country, where they are, very properly, welcomed most cordially. The aggregate property of those immigrants amounts to millions in the course of a year. The outcry of these reformers about immigration, contrasts very unfavorably with the reception which the real "natives," the Indians, gave the fathers of these men when they landed on Plymouth Rock—"the blarney stone of New England," or on Manhattan Island. If the Indians had been actuated by such a spirit, where would have been the descendants of these immigrants and foreign adventurers?

But all their outcries—all their blundering, grandiloquent laughable reports about emigration—will not satisfy the people of this city. The cry of "the Bible—the Bible—the Bible—the Pope—the Pope—the Pope—the Irish—the Irish—the Irish," will not convince the people that they have clean streets, that they have a good police, that they have not $200,000 more taxes to pay this year than ever they had. And, therefore, we will be very much mistaken, indeed, if the people of this city will not make a united effort next spring for the purpose of getting rid of these miserable imbeciles, who, during the last year have done nothing but abuse the Pope and the Irish—tie tin pans about the Park fountain—get up oil contracts—and add two hundred thousand dollars to the oppressive burden of taxation.

CADET'S BALL.—The Annual Ball of the First Company Cadets came off last night at the Apollo, and was very fully and fashionably attended. We have seldom seen a finer looking Company, and the ladies were especially worthy of admiration. The exquisite descriptive phrase of Byron—"a thousand hearts beat happily," was fully realized.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM SKENEATELES COMMUNITY—THE NEW SOCIAL SYSTEM, OR THE STRUGGLES OF PARTURITION—SOCIETY WITHOUT RELIGION.—We give on our first page a very remarkable account of the present condition of the "Skeneateles Community"—an association of Fourierites, organized some time since on the banks of that picturesque lake. This statement is exceedingly well worth perusal, affording the best possible illustration of the working of this new social system, the first fruits of the planting of such philosophers as Brisbane and Greeley. Other associations of a similar character, have been organized in various parts of the country, and they all appear to be rapidly approaching the condition of the Skeneateles Community. Indeed, we could hardly anticipate any other fate, for all experiments to organize society without religion and, on principles utterly opposed to that glorious system of morals and practice, which was first announced to mankind on the shores of Gallilee, and amongst the mountains of Judea.

These ridiculous attempts—which would be laughable enough did they not involve the ruin of the poor people who are deluded by them—are to be traced to the teachings of the visionary and egotistical philosophers of New England, who style themselves transcendentalists—such as Brownson, Brisbane, Greeley, Emerson, and others—who make all sorts of spasmodic efforts, in the hope of obtaining notoriety as men greatly in advance of the age. They fill the minds of some of the common people with wild and dazzling notions about an El Dorado in the wilderness, and paradises in the piny fields—induce them to give up their farms and habits of industry, and herd together for a few months in some miserable barn, or outhouses, and then break up in utter confusion and shamefacedness, as in the case now before us of the Skeneateles victims.

ITALIAN OPERA—BENEFIT OF SIGNORA BORGHESE.—The benefit of Signora Borghese last night, was one of the most gratifying and substantial testimonials of public favor ever offered to an artist by the citizens of New York. Of the house, it is only necessary to say, that, had it been twice as large as it is, we believe it would have been thronged with beautiful women and fashionable men. Every seat and standing-place was occupied, and the aisles were lined with chairs, sold at almost any price, and filled with ladies. The throng was indeed oppressive; and yet we have never seen an audience that enjoyed themselves more fully. We have already criticised the *Semiramide*, and need only observe that it has never before been so brilliantly performed as last night. The artists seemed each one determined to excel, and every thing was carried off with a spirit that created an irrepressible enthusiasm in the house. The only thing that impaired the enjoyment of the spectators, was the absence of Korponay, who was, unfortunately, detained in Philadelphia by sickness, and unable to fulfil his engagement to dance the ever-attractive Polka. Miss Brooks showed herself an easy and graceful dancer, and the Polka, with her and Mons. Korponay, would have proved a great attraction.

At the fall of the curtain, the fair *beneficiare* was loudly called for, and received on her appearance with a many-colored shower of wreaths and boquets. One almost imagined that the sweet tones uttered by the eloquent *cantatrice* had shaped themselves in flowers and returned to her feet to do her homage. She gathered them literally by the armful, and went smiling away, with her well-earned harvest pressed to her bosom.

An elegantly-tinted and perfumed *brochure*, in the shape of some French verses, headed "Euphrasie Borghese au Public," was circulated through the house during the performance. We will not vouch for the excellence of the poetry, but here it is:—

EUPHRASIE BORGHESE.

AU PUBLIC.

C'est donc mon bénéfice! et la salle est remplie
D'un Public bienveillant qui, de sa sympathie,
Vient me donner la preuve en généreux bravos
Dont mon cœur à jamais gardera les échos.
Ah! quel honneur pour moi, dans mon destin prospère,
D'avoir pu dans New York, ma ville hospitalière,
Moissonner des lauriers, si beaux et si flatteurs,
Décernés par les mains d'un Public d'amateurs;
Et me voir en ce jour galamment applaudie
Par la plus fine fleur de l'aristocratie.
De Japonica Dom le monde recherché
S'enchâsse avec éclat dans ma société,
Et de la salle entière la brilliante élégance
Me rappelle avec joie mes plus beaux jour de France—
Mais comment puis-je, hélas! vous dire tout le bonheur
Que me donne aujourd'hui votre accueil si flatteur?
Si ma bouche avait su parler la langue anglaise,
Vous auriez entendu la signora Borghese,
Dans un simple discours, vous exprimer ici
Tout le contentement dont son cœur est rempli.
J'ai recours à ces vers dont la faible éloquence
A besoin d'obtenir tout votre indulgence:
Je viens vous les offrir comme remerciment
De mon cœur, qui toujours saera reconnaissent
De votre accueil brillant, de vos bravos sonores,
De vos galants bouquets, et de vos chers *encores!*

So great is the desire to hear more of the *Semiramide*, that we perceive an extra representation of it is to take place on Thursday evening. We presume it will be crowded, as people now begin to go to the opera for the sake of the music, and are becoming in earnest in their enjoyment of its elevating and refining influences.

WEBSTER IN THE SENATE.—Next Wednesday Daniel Webster will undoubtedly be elected to the United States Senate from Massachusetts. He will take Choate's place.

MADAME ARNOULT'S CONCERT.—The names of Perozzi and Etienne, who will assist at this grand Concert, were accidentally omitted in former advertisements.

GERMAN JEWS.—A dinner in aid of a Society for the relief of indigent German Jews, is to be given at the Minerva Rooms, this evening. The object is very laudable.

PARK.—The "Bohemian Girl" loses none of its attractions. The house last night was crowded, as usual, and the performance went off with much spirit. It is to be played every night this week.

FIREMEN'S BALL.—Fulton Engine Company No 21 had a splendid Ball last night at Tammany Hall. Every thing was in tip-top style, and the whole affair was one of uninterrupted enjoyment.

THE EMPIRE CLUB.—This great and important body purpose holding a meeting at St. John's Hall to-morrow evening, for the purpose of expressing their views in relation to the importance of the immediate annexation of Texas, and to urge on the representatives and others the necessity of carrying out the will of the people and this Club, as expressed at the late election. No doubt but that this meeting will have all the weight with the parties alluded to that it merits, seeing that the body has been so active, by the request of his honor the Mayor, in preserving the peace during the election, and leading the *ton* since that period.

ANTI-RENT DISTURBANCES.—The *Albany Argus* of Tuesday states, that a meeting of anti-renters was held in the village of West Sandlake on Saturday last. The proceedings indicate that the great mass of the anti-renters condemn the outrages perpetrated by the Indians, and wish to redress their grievances in a peaceable way, and not by acts of lawless violence.

[From the Troy Budget, Jan. 13.]

MORE ARRESTS.—Under Sheriff Richmond, assisted by E. Wilson 2d, of this city, and another gentleman of Sandlake, made several arrests yesterday and last night, the particulars of which we have not been able to obtain in detail before going to press. The barn of Geo. Horton, Esq. of Sandlake, was fired on Friday night, and burnt to the ground, destroying several cattle and other property, amounting in value to about $1000. A young man by the name of Caulkins, supposed to have been the incendiary, has been arrested, and is now in jail. In the afternoon, while the under sheriff and his party were bringing in two prisoners, both named Bailey, one of the teams was intercepted on the road near Poestenkill, by five or six Indians armed, and one of the prisoners rescued from the officers. Last night the under sheriff again went to the mountains of Sandlake, in search of the fugitive, and not only recaptured him, but brought in another prisoner.

From the information we have obtained, we believe that the operations of yesterday, under the management of under sheriff Richmond, were conducted with great skill and prudence.

Three of the prisoners in the case of the Grafton outrage, Burdick, Lund, and Parks, were let out on bail Saturday last.

NORTH CAROLINA.—A bill to provide for the election of a Lieutenant Governor by the people, in the same way and at the same time that the Governor is now elected, was rejected by the Legislature just before the session closed.

Mercantile Library Association—Annual Meeting.

A large and influential meeting of this useful association took place last night at their rooms, Clinton Hall, to receive the reports of the various officers, and transact other business, incidental to their annual assemblages. At half past 7 o'clock, the hour appointed, Phillip Hone, Esq., was called to preside, unanimously—and upon his assuming that office, he spoke as follows:

GENTLEMEN: I am proud and happy to meet you once more. I feel myself honored by being called to preside at this, your annual meeting. I have been long associated with it, as you know very well, and if you would permit me to call myself so, I might say I am one of the fathers of this association. You must permit me to say so, for my feelings tell me that that is the title I am desirous to obtain from you. (Applause.) Gentlemen, during a long, and not inactive life, I have been engaged in many works of utility in my native city, but I know of none in which I have taken such a deep interest, none which has such a deep hold on my affections, as this which I now have the honor of addressing. (Applause.) I know the history of your origin, your progress and your success. (Loud applause.) The institution over which I have the honor to preside, is closely allied to you; it is formed with no other object but that of assisting, directing and supporting your operations. We are exercising, we hope, a practical and salutary influence on your institution; and in no instance have we had any reason to exercise any but the most affectionate control over you. That this should continue, would be exceedingly gratifying to the gentlemen by whom the building was constructed for your accommodation. The institution ever which I preside has not much to do, and I am happy it is so, for it shows that all is going on right. This institution has reason to be grateful for the interest manifested at the time of its establishment; there has been, we hope, no diminution of its usefulness. It is most fervently to be hoped that it may continue, for, from no other institution will more good arise from the fruition of these hopes. Let your zeal not relax; above all preserve the unanimity, the cordiality, and the affection existing among you now. Time was, when some party spirit agitated you, but I am happy to learn it is at an end. Let me then impress on your minds the necessity of union among yourselves. The times past, at one period, looked a little unfavorable for commerce, but we may now hope that they are past, and that in times of commercial prosperity which are coming, this institution cannot fail to prosper. The trustees of the Clinton Hall Association entertained and expressed a hope that they might prove instrumental in aiding this institution. The erection of this building created a debt which has now, all but little, been paid off. In our last annual report, we expressed a hope that the amount might have been collected during the past year. In that we were disappointed; but still it will be paid. There is now in your treasury a larger balance than is usual at this time of the year; that will be applied in liquidation of that balance, which has dwindled from 22 000 down to 11,000, which is the whole amount now owing by the Clinton Hall Association. When this is discharged, your whole revenue will go to increase your library—it has no end but that. (Applause.) The subscribers, in giving you their money, had no object but your advantage. They had no expectation to increase their money; no dividends to expect; no interest to calculate upon. When that debt, therefore, is paid, gentlemen, the whole revenue of this building will be applied to the use, for ever, of the Mercantile Library Association.—(Cheers.) The object, then, of the Trustees, will be to pay it off as soon as possible. I have no more to say, gentlemen, and will not keep you longer than to observe that I am happy to be among you; that I consider myself your father, if you will me to say so (approbation) for there is no title so dear to my heart as that of father to such an Association. (Applause.) And as long as I have a grey hair upon my head—as long as I have a voice to raise, I shall be happy to be among you; for there is no title prouder to me than to be a friend and father of the Mercantile Library Association. (Marked applause.)

The minutes of the last meeting were then read by the Secretary and approved. The Treasurer's report was next read; after which Mr. Hone rose to say that he was requested to state that two gentlemen were expected to be here to-night, but neither of them could attend. One of them, Mr. Frelinghuysen, was very unwell. The Mayor had promised to be here, but he is not here; but I have recurring to my own experience, to ask you to excuse him as a Mayor, if he do'nt do just as he promises.—(Laughter and applause.)

Mr. MILLER, the President of the Society, then read the annual report. It was a very long and elaborate review of the affairs of the association, and rather an encouraging statement of proceedings for the past year. There was a slight diminution in the number of members which in the past year were 2001, in this, 1891; of which 1827 paid three dollars, and 94 were merchants, paying five dollars. The number of honorary members were 119.—The receipts for the past year amounted to $4 204; the expenditure $3,789—leaving $416 in the treasurer's hands. The aggregate number of volumes in the library were 23,812, of which 617 were rebound and repaired, and for the care and attention of the library committee, the report made a full acknowledgment. The state of the reading room—the system of lectures—the several classes organized under efficient teachers, were severally reviewed and the report ended with a warm recommendation to the successors of the government officers to pursue with energy the great objects for which the Institution was originally founded—the diffusion of useful knowledge among the mercantile youth of this community.

Rev. Mr. MASON next addressed the meeting in a very sensible and happy manner upon the duties and the prospects of the commercial youth of this city. He was listened to with much attention, and frequently applauded.

Thanks of the meeting was then moved, seconded, and carried unanimously, to the President of the Association, for his very able report—also to Phillip Hone, Esq., for his very able conduct in the chair, which was carried with great approbation.

A MEMBER proposed that the minutes of the meeting of the Association of the 13th of June last, be read. The object of this resolution was for the purpose of having these minutes expunged from the proceedings of the Society, as they went to impugn the conduct of some of the members of the Association. The minutes alluded to were read accordingly.

The CHAIRMAN doubted the right of the present meeting to alter the minutes of any previous meeting, particularly when they had been approved of by a subsequent meeting. He, the Chairman, knew of no law but that of repudiation, that would authorize them to expunge the proceedings of any meeting that had previously taken place. (Laughter.) He did not think the Society was at all inclined to adopt this law. (Renewed laughter and applause.) The proposition was then negatived.

A MEMBER proposed a resolution recommending to the officers of the Association for the ensuing year a reduction of the expenditure of the funds of the Association.

Another MEMBER proposed an amendment to the last resolution, recommending to the officers for the ensuing year an increased endeavor on their part to increase the number of the members, as the most valuable means of increasing the funds of the society, and promoting its pecuniary welfare.

This addition was accepted by the original mover, and passed unanimously.

A MEMBER then moved a resolution, recommending to the members the purchase of the printed catalogue of the library of the Association, as the best means of relieving the Association from the expense entailed by the printing of the same. (Shuffling of feet, and cries of "Adjourn, adjourn.")

The question was then put and carried unanimously, as was the motion for adjournment, and the meeting broke up.

MR. BENNETT:

Having examined some time since, for my own satisfaction, the subject of immigrants, the amount of commutation money paid, &c. I can, to the extent of ten years, (from 1830 to 1840,) throw some light on the subject; but whether it will satisfy you, your correspondent, or the public, is not for me to determine. Such however, as it is, I herewith give you.

The number of passengers which arrived at this port in the years 1830 to 1839 inclusive, were 297,978. Commutation money received during the same time, was $136,973. Expenses of the Almshouse during same time, $1824,015.

In 1842, the number in the Alms-house was 2893, of these there were of Natives 1412. Foreigners 1481.

Commutation money received in 1842 was $11,155, computed (by me) expenses of keeping the 1481 foreign paupers for the year—admitting they were all through the whole of 1842—is $77,012. This computation allows the expenses for each pauper, at $1 per week. I think it is fair to presume that the 1481 were not in the Alms-house throughout the whole year. So that "Subscriber" and your readers must make their own inferences, or examine the reports for themselves, as I did, in order to arrive at the actual facts.

Yours, &c., JOHN MORRISON,
No. 135 Chatham street.

Death of a Student.

At a meeting of the Students of the Medical Department of the University of the city of New York, Mr. P. A. Aylette, of Alabama, was called to the chair, and Mr. D. L. Anderson, of South Carolina, requested to act as Secretary: Whereupon the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted: Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God in his all-wise dispensation of Providence, to remove from our number our beloved and highly esteemed fellow-member, Mr. Benjamin F. Gerald, of Camden, S. C, who departed this life on the 11th inst.—Therefore be it—

Resolved, That we most ardently sympathise with his bereaved relations and friends, and offer them as a balm of consolation, that he has left behind him a name that shall live in our hearts

"So long as memory flings a wave
Back to the shores of time, to light the darkness of the grave."

Resolved, That each member of the class wear the usual badge of mourning on the left arm for thirty days, as the last sad tribute of respect for the deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to his relations, and that a copy be transmitted for publication to the Editor of the *New York Herald*, *The Watchman of the South*, *The Camden Journal*, S. C., and other South Carolina papers are requested to copy.

Jan. 13th, 1845.

P. A. AYLETT, Chairman.
D. L. ANDERSON, Secretary.

DEAR SIR:—

Can you inform a tax-payer why it is, that when the Corporation do make an effort to sweep the streets, that the dirt is collected in little mounds and allowed to remain there for weeks, till it is scattered back again, thereby putting the city to additional expense collecting it up again, either that or it becomes frozen and endangers vehicles passing. The street in which I reside (one of the principal in the 17th ward) has not been swept for three months—ashes and every filth have accumulated to a disgraceful extent; yet my taxes have been $20 more this year than ever they were before.

A TAXPAYER.

Fashionable and Almost Fatal Duel at Hoboken Yesterday—Great Affair of Honor—A long Prayer and much Tremor previous.

There was a great sensation in this city yesterday in consequence of the coming off of an affair of honor, which has been long pending between two members of the military of this city—one an old veteran of the revolutionary service, who ought to have known better; and a member of one of the city companies, who is notorious for his

"Sound and fury, signifying nothing."

Both parties are employed on the principal organ of the Fourierites in this city, as men of metal, or better known in the old country as "donkeys."—The origin of the quarrel, we could not, with any degree of certainty ascertain, but as far as we could learn, it was on military tactics. The matter has been pending for some time, but had grown to such an extent that nothing but blood would satisfy the rivals. The consequence was that mutual friends were applied to, and after various endeavors on their parts, it was decided that a meeting should take place yesterday in the Elysian Fields, Hoboken; weapons, muskets—at twenty paces distant. At the appointed hour, twelve o'clock, the parties were on the ground, accompanied by their respective friends. The old veteran of the revolution was accompanied by a civilian, and the other party was accompanied by a member of one of the city companies, well known in the typographical profession. It was agreed upon that the parties should stand back to back, march ten paces forward, wheel and fire at the word of command. While these matters were being arranged, one of the parties, who professes to be of a religious spirit, knelt down on the green sward and offered up a long and silent prayer; while the other stood, as pale as a ghost, a short distance off, trembling like one of the tenderest branches on the trees near the spot. Having been placed in the position named, the word was given by the military friend, in most sonorous tones, "March," and they proceeded forward. This was succeeded by the other words, "wheel," "fire;" but ere the old veteran could raise his musket to his shoulder, he received his antagonists fire somewhere about the wrist, which caused him to drop his weapon, and in doing so it was discharged. The word was immediately given for the other to fly, which hint was promptly complied with, and the successful champion and his friend were soon out of sight. Upon examination of the wounded man, it was found that he had received the wadding of his enemy's fire on the sleeve, without doing any material damage to the more fleshy part of the human frame. Shortly after, a well known active individual, who has made himself quite popular in the musical world of late, both in the election manœuvres and at a recent "grand national musical exhibition," as well as at all great police occurrences which have transpired for some time past, appeared on the ground, and was much chagrined at his being "a day after the fare," and expressed himself in no measured terms thereat; but not waiting to ascertain the fate of the wounded, went in pursuit of the assailant, but with what success, up to the hour of going to press, we were not able to ascertain. The wounded man was conveyed to this city, and enjoyed himself with some friends, talking over the events

"By flood and field,"

for the remainder of the evening. The last heard of the other party was, that at a late hour in the evening he was seen imbibing sundry three cents worth in one of the avenues in the upper part of the city. Further accounts are expected in the Police reports within a day or two.

Another affair of honor is rumored to come off with blunderbusses, on Saturday morning, between two roller-boys of the same establishment—but it is to be hoped that the authorities will see to the matter and prevent ink-shed.

Common Council.

BOARD OF ASSISTANTS—Jan. 14.—This Board held a special meeting last evening.

W. EVERDELL, Esq. in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A communication was received from James Robinson, asking for the adoption of the necessary measures for the establishment of an Anti gambling Association. Referred.

Invitation.—From the New York Society of Literature to attend their 2d annual anniversary. Accepted.

Ordinance—In relation to improvements for the removal of the night soil, and the deposite of the same at certain slips, so as not to create a nuisance.

Mr. HORN moved it be laid on the table and printed for the use of members.

Mr. WARD opposed the motion.

The question was taken and lost.

The ordinance was then adopted.

Remonstrance of sundry persons against regulating Forty-third street. Concurred in.

In favor of flagging Seventh street, between Avenues B and C.

In favor of referring report relative to a drain in Forty-first street, to Commissioners, with power. Concurred in.

Papers from the Board—Charity and Alms.—Report of Committee on Charity and Alms, to effect certain regulations in the Alms House, and provisions in relation to the landing of foreign immigrants.

Mr. HENRY moved its reference to the Committee on Charity and Alms, as he considered the report a gross libel on the foreign population.

Mr. WOOD opposed the motion, which was lost.

Mr. HENRY moved that it be laid on the table.

Mr. CHARLICK did not see the necessity of laying on the table.

Mr. HENRY wished to have an examination into the subject, as the foreigners who came here contributed more to the City funds than what was contemplated they should by the adoption of such an ordinance. The ordinance was concurred in.

Registry Law—The ordinance from the Board in relation to certain regulations in the Registry Law, and the adoption of necessary measures for the passage of an act of the Legislature therefor was taken up, and non-concurred in.

Communication from the Street Commissioners relative to opening 85th street from 7th to 9th avenue in February next. Referred.

Manhattan Gas Co.—Memorial from the Company, asking for certain facilities for the laying of pipes through the sewer in 8th Avenue. Referred to Committee on roads and canals, with power.

New Police.—The appointments as reported in yesterday's *Herald* in our report of the proceedings before the Board, were concurred in. Ayes 9—Noes 6

Resolutions in favor of carrying out the provisions of the above, and directing the Captains of the watch not to fill up any vacancies in that establishment until the above act is put in power on the 20th instant. Concurred in.

Appointment—Samuel Ludlow, Captain of City Police.

Lamps and Gas.—Mr. Charlick's Resolution.—The following resolution was then taken up:—

Resolved, That the Superintendent of Lamps and Gas be directed to report to this Board, at its next meeting the number of estimates received for the contract for oil which was given to George Harris on the 31st July, 1844, and also present a true copy of all such estimates, and inform this Board of the residence of George Harris and his place of business; and also report to this Board, at its next meeting, a copy of all the estimates received for the contract for oil that was given to James R Sparrow on the 10th December, 1844; and further present to this Board a true copy of the advertisement published for said estimates and contracts, and whether said oil has been delivered according to said contracts, and if the said oil was pure or not; and also inform this Board of the residence and place of business of said James R Sparrow.

A communication was received from the Superintendent of Lamps and Gas in compliance with the above resolution. The communication merely stated that the oil contracted for was of good quality—save in some instances where it was adulterated at 10 per cent—However, the contract with Messrs. Sparrow and Harris, was carried out to the advantage of the city. The estimates of a large number of persons, which were put in before the Committee, previous to the completion of the contract with Messrs Harris and Sparrow were read. Some of the estimates offered to supply good sperm oil at 89, 90, and 95 cents, and also at sums varying from 88 to 96 cents.

The estimate of James R. Sparrow (Mr. Johnson's partner) was accompanied with a request that he be appointed Contractor, as he was *a good American Republican.*

Mr. JOHNSON moved that the report be laid on the table and printed.

Mr. CHARLICK was of opinion that the report should be returned to the Superintendent, as the objects of the resolution were not complied with. As to the purity of the oil, they had it that it was adulterated ten per cent. The Superintendent did not comply with the requirements of the ordinance of the Common Council, in contracting with George Harris, contrary to the advertisement.

CHAIRMAN—You are going out of order—and cannot go on the merits on a simple resolution to lay on the table.

Mr. CHARLICK was of opinion that the merits of the case ought to be gone into, and not heodwink the question in this way.

Mr. WARD—We will withdraw the motion, and then—

Mr. CHARLICK—Who moved to lay on the table?

Mr. JOHNSON—It was me.

Mr. CHARLICK—Oh! then of course the gentleman of the 11th will withdraw.

CHAIRMAN—This is out of order.

Mr. JOHNSON—My object in moving to let lie on the table was to have the matter discussed and printed so as that all may read it after printing

The motion to lay on the table prevailed, when the paper was laid on the table, and an immense crowd who had collected immediately withdrew.

Mr. CHARLICK moved to take up the paper for discussion which was also lost. He considered they had a right to go into the merits and discuss them fully.

CHAIRMAN—Not certainly after the matter has been laid on the table. We can discuss in order.

Report—In favor of flagging southerly side of 14th street, between 9th and 10th avenues—Adopted.

In favor of flagging 24th street, 6th avenue—Adopted.

The Board adjourned to Monday evening next, at 6 o'clock.

THE TEXAN VISITORS.—General Lamar, ex-President of Texas; Commodore Moore; the Mayor and Common Council; Ex-Mayors Morris and Clarke; Generals Sandford, Morris, Storms and Stryker, and numerous other dignitaries, pay a visit, by invitation, to the Chatham Theatre tonight. It will be the last visit made in public by the gallant visitors during their stay in this city.

FLORIDA.—A letter from Fort Brooke, E. F., dated Dec. 27th, says:—"A report is in circulation, and doubtless flying, that Indian hostilities have been renewed. This is wholly unfounded. Will you therefore so announce to the public, that the excitement and anxiety incident to such a report may be allayed, and thereby detest the mischievous and wicked object of its projector. All is quiet. The natives are anxious for peace, and friendly intercourse with their white neighbors."

City Intelligence.

Police Office—JAN. 14.—BURGLARY.—The premises 156 Waverly Place, were entered a few nights since, and robbed of a small amount of property, consisting of clothing.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY.—Mary Townsend and Henrietta Townsend were arrested and committed for cutting Mary Fash with a knife. Jealousy and too much *eau de vie.*

A BURGLAR ARRESTED.—Officer Bird yesterday arrested Caleb Nichols, indicted in 1843 for a burglary in having entered the flour store of Mr. Board, in Washington street, and stolen $300, he having succeeded in keeping out of the way, although his companion was caught and sentenced to the State prison. He was committed for trial.

OWNERS WANTED.—Officer Bird arrested a well known offender yesterday, with several pieces of cloth in his possession, supposed to be stolen, and for which owners are wanted.

A number of petit larcenies were disposed of by committing the persons who committed them.

THE FIRST PARDON.—Gov. Silas Wright has pardoned Hunnewell Vincent, sentenced a few weeks since to the State prison, for passing counterfeit money.

General Sessions.

Before the Recorder, and Aldermen Winship and Devoe.

JONAS B. PHILLIPS, Esq., District Attorney—*ad interim.*

TUESDAY, Jan. 14.—*Trial for Grand Larceny.*—Sarah Wilson, black, was tried on an indictment for this offence, in stealing $23 in money, and a shawl from Mrs. Mary West, an old colored woman, who has charge of the building No. 27 Wall street. The jury convicted of a petit larceny, and the Court sentenced her to six months imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

Another.—Richard Brunson was tried on an indictment for stealing a considerable amount of property belonging to Mr. Rosencrantz and Mr. Campbell, boarders in the house No 243 Division