Interesting Home Correspondence.

Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1852.

The Mormon Rebellion Contradicted—Public Sentiment in California and Utah—Nature of the Route from St. Louis to San Francisco—Advice to Emigrants—Prospects in California—Collectorship at San Francisco—Appointment of an Indian Agent.

There is reliable information at Washington, which contradicts the story of the Mormon rebellion. The people there acknowledge that as regards the charges of a domestic character, they are bad enough themselves, yet accuse the Judges of being worse in that respect; and are indignant at being charged with the crime of rebellion against the government of the United States. But they entertain the same conviction which prevails at California, that there are persons in the territories qualified to fill office; and as American citizens, claim that men of influence among themselves should be appointed, whose interest and sympathies are with them.

I have recently had an opportunity of conversing with a gentleman who has resided upwards of three years in California, was one of the party who were the pioneers in that direction, and who, notwithstanding much suffering and hardship, and having to fight their way through the Indians, succeeded in reaching the coast, and ultimately arrived at San Francisco. He informs me that Californians, who have since crossed the country and sold goods, recommend western people going out there not to listen to the reports that are circulated, as to the hostile character of the Mormons and Indians; but to lay in merely sufficient provisions to last them till they arrive at the Mormon valley, where they can procure a further supply, to enable them to reach California, at a cheaper rate than they can haul them to the former place.

Families going from the Eastern States, he says, should fit out at St. Louis or in Missouri; and while there purchase Indian ponies or mules, either of which are preferable to oxen—he recommends the former, where they have been broken in to draw, and which are a breed between the Canadian and French poney. Each individual should be provided with a buffalo robe; and with reference to clothes, they should be light and easily carried; and no more should be taken than are absolutely necessary, as clothing and furniture can be purchased cheaper in California than at St. Louis. Saddles—the dragoon saddle is preferable for the plains—and wagons, should be purchased at St. Louis, where they are acquainted with the description that is required, and where they can be had cheaper than elsewhere.

Those going from New York or Philadelphia, and who might wish to purchase Colt's revolvers, the Mississippi rifle or double-barrelled shot guns, should obtain them in either of these cities—preferring those which they will find necessary for killing game and procuring food. Persons having most experience of California, recommend others not to go there, at this late period, with a view of amassing a fortune, and returning in three or four years; but only such as shall take with them their families, and make up their minds to remain there; and those only should emigrate who possess the hardihood to endure the privation incidental to the settlement of a new country, and sufficient patience to wait for comforts till they can earn them for themselves. Young men, however, are advised not to abandon any situation they may have in the Atlantic States, unless they have been accustomed to hard work.

There are at present many western families collecting at St. Louis; and persons wishing to join them should start soon, as parties generally set off in April for the plains, as soon as grass begins to grow and the streams to run. Mining tools and other implements can be purchased so cheap in California, that it is the height of folly to carry them there; but groceries can be disposed of to advantage by parties in the Mormon valley. The time occupied in going from St. Louis to San Francisco is about seventy or seventy-five days; and a road has been opened, upon which wagons properly constructed can travel.

An effort has of late been making here, to oust Butler King from the collectorship of California. His friends say he is ready and willing to meet any charge that may be made against him; and they will give security in his behalf to any amount.

Lieut. Beale, of the navy, has been appointed Indian Agent in California, where, I understand, the appointment will give satisfaction, and where he is well known. W.

WASHINGTON, March 7, 1852.

The Nicaragua Route to the Pacific—The Claims of Costa Rica to a Part of it, &c.

As the Nicaragua route attracts public attention, and everything in that quarter seems to be viewed as regulated and permanently settled, it will be not amiss to look a little into the political organization of the Isthmus, and the negotiations which may have been entered into by our government to secure the right of way or transit.

You are aware that the government of Nicaragua is not the only one that claims the right of navigation of the River San Juan and the Lake of Nicaragua. Costa Rica has established claims to the joint navigation of the river and lake, growing out of the possession of the border province, Guanacaste, which has belonged to Costa Rica ever since the revolution, and of which she has held undisturbed possession during the last twenty-eight years. England and Spain have recognized Costa Rica, with her northern frontier extending to Lake Nicaragua and the River San Juan; and our own government cannot, without gross injustice to Costa Rica, and breaking in upon all the usages and national laws which have heretofore guided our acts of recognition of other nations, refuse to recognise her with limits different from those fixed by her own people and government.

Nicaragua may claim the province of Guanacaste; but she has done nothing for a period of twenty-eight years, to possess herself of it, and her whole claim rests on the obsolete divisions of the provinces by the old Spanish government. From the first day of independence of Central America from the Spanish crown to the present day, the government of Costa Rica, with the free will and consent of the people of Guanacaste, exercised jurisdiction over that province; the people of Guanacaste recognizing that jurisdiction, and voluntarily submitting themselves to that government. The government of Costa Rica, therefore, by the possession of the province of Guanacaste, which borders on the lake of Nicaragua and the river San Juan, is possessed, in part, of the sovereignty over that lake and the river, and claims jointly with Nicaragua, to dispose of that sovereign right to other nations or individuals. England and Spain have recognized that right by recognizing Costa Rica with her limits as above stated, and this government cannot, without violating the national law, do less in the premises.

The consideration of the claims of Costa Rica and the interest of our citizens, require action on the part of our government, and that action I believe would have been had if the government of Nicaragua, to which a Charge d'Affaires has been despatched from Washington, could have been found organized, and ready to treat with us. And it is also believed, and current here in diplomatic circles, that, if the policy of Great Britain toward Central America has not suffered a material change by the withdrawal of Lord Palmerston from office, an arrangement will yet be effected by the co-operation of the governments of the United States and Great Britain, which will secure the rights of both Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and, at the same time, the interests of our own citizens. Costa Rica, on her part, is known to be willing to aid by legislation, by treaty, or otherwise, the enterprise of our citizens, provided her rights are respected, and the proper steps taken to secure her consent and aid in that enterprise. The only real difficulty in the way of arranging all matters relating to Central America, consists in finding the government of Nicaragua, no money having, as yet, been voted for an exploring expedition to the Isthmus. OXENSTIERNA.

Kentucky.

LEXINGTON, KY., Feb. 29, 1852.

Lexington, its Manufactories and Public Buildings—Lexington and Louisville Railroad—Politics—Maine Liquor Law, &c., &c.

Our city, which once supplied the markets of Cincinnati and Louisville, has lost much of its former trade and importance, but is yet a place of considerable business, and known for the number and extent of its manufactories. Lexington was founded in 1776, and received its name in commemoration of the battle of Lexington. The streets are laid out at right angles, and the principle one, Main street, is nearly a mile and a half long. The Masonic Hall, Transylvania University, and other public buildings, are of tasty design and finish, and would do credit to any city in the Union. The surrounding country is rich and highly cultivated, and is dotted over with elegant mansions. The city numbers nearly eight thousand inhabitants, about half of whom are slaves. Taxable property in the city is about $8,000,000, and the investment in banks and manufactories is estimated at over $12,000,000. In the city and county there are thirty-five bagging and rope establishments, making annually over 4,000,000 yards of bagging, and 5,000,000 lbs. rope. The manufactories of Lexington are very extensive, and to those who have not made themselves acquainted with statistics of this character, would appear almost incredible.

Our railroad between here and Louisville is doing an excellent business, notwithstanding the want of competent management to direct and control its affairs. Passenger trains are crowded every trip, and the cars for freight are always heavily laden. The distance between the cities is ninety-eight miles, which is travelled over in less than five hours, at the low fare of three dollars. Property on the line of the road is every day advancing in value, and holders are unwilling to sell, except at exhorbitant rates.

The "Maine Liquor Law" is the subject of discussion among our "sonnies," who generally consider it inexpedient, just now, for Kentucky to enact such stringent laws. We are almost too near Bourbon county to do much in the temperance way, for it is the extensive distilleries in our neighboring county which furnish the well known "old Bourbon."

The winter has been unusually gay. Balls and parties have been all the rage, and charades and tableux have had a fashionable introduction. In the absence of a theatre we have been favored with lectures on Astronomy and the other sciences, and time has, perhaps, been thus more profitably passed than in gazing at footlights. B.

New Mexico.

SANTA FE, N. M., Feb. 1, 1852.

Indian Trouble—the Condition of the American Forces—Discoveries of Rich Gold Mines in all Parts of the Territory, &c.

The mail carrier from El Paso del Norte, arrived here last night, confirming the account previously received of the attacking of a small party of soldiers on the Jornada del Muerto by about eighty Muscalero Apache Indians. The Indians had concealed themselves in the grass and soap weeds, and were not seen by the soldiers until they were fired upon. They succeeded in killing four of them and wounding the fifth, who, while the Indians were securing the mules, succeeded in making his escape. It happened in the same place where poor Brent and a Mexican were recently killed.

There are not ten serviceable dragoon horses in the territory, owing to Colonel Summer's starving economizing policy. Every one will admit that the removal of the troops from the towns to the frontier was an excellent measure. But we cannot say as much for his system of retrenchment which has been put into operation during the past six months. The result is that the soldiers have no horses or mules, and are thus made perfectly useless in pursuing these murdering band of wild devils, who have become so bold as to attack soldiers within two miles of their forts. The regular army in this territory is a perfect dead letter, as far as protecting the inhabitants from the Indians goes. The only good they have probably done is, by their presence in the country the Mexicans have been kept from rising and revolutionizing the country.

Rich gold mines are being discovered in every part of the territory. A party of some sixty men, principally Americans, left here on Monday last for Rio Gila, where a rich placer has been discovered. This placer is said to be richer than any part of California. This party has taken from this place all the Americans who could leave. They were all well mounted and armed, and supplied with two months provisions. I have no doubt but what they will meet with success. Gold has also been discovered near Dona Ana; out of about three pounds of rocks, sixteen dollars worth of gold was taken. Also near Lo de Moro, from about a peck of dirt three dollars worth of pure gold was found. Several lumps that will weigh from three to nine ounces each have recently been found in the placer forty miles from this place. This mine is known to be very rich in gold, but there is no water. If a company were formed with a sufficiency of capital to build a railroad to the nearest water, it would pay better than any mine in the world! It is an acknowledged fact that this territory is the richest part of Uncle Sam's dominions in mineral wealth. Gold, copper, iron, silver, tin, coal, and lead are everywhere abundant.

The market here is well stocked with goods of every description. Business at present is dull: but a good spring business is anticipated. N. B. C.

Marine Affairs.

LAUNCHED—At Bath, 6th instant, from the ship yard of the late John Henry, a fine ship of 900 tons, called the Elvira Owen, to be commanded by Captain Charles Owen, of Bath; 8th, from the ship yard of Messrs. Trefant, Drummond & Co., a splendid ship of 1,170 tons, called the Benjamin Adams.

NARROW ESCAPE OF A SHIP FROM DESTRUCTION.—The packet ship Levi Woodbury, Captain Nickerson in Train & Co.'s line, which arrived here yesterday, from Liverpool, with a valuable cargo, had a narrow escape from destruction yesterday morning. She was running in for the Light at Minot's Rocks, when she made a single light, and supposing it to be the one she was in search of, she bore away for Boston Light, which could not be seen, on account of the rain and thick weather. Shortly after, the weather clearing a little, Boston Light was seen on the starboard bow, when the ship was within half her length of Cohasset Rocks, and the breakers close under her bows. It was with the greatest difficulty that the ship was cleared from her perilous situation. After wearing round, and heading off shore, a schooner was discovered under the lee bow, a man on board of which stated that he was staying at the moorings of the old light. Had the weather remained thick a few moments longer, the valuable ship, with her entire freight, and perhaps the valuable lives on board, would have become the victims of mismanagement and shameful neglect of duty on the part of those on board the light ship. The light first seen subsequently proved to be Scituate Light.—*Boston Courier, March 10.*

Sporting Intelligence.

[From the Albany Atlas, March 7.]

A HEAVY MATCH.—It is reported that a match of $20,000 a side is about concluded between the backers, in this city and elsewhere, of Mac, the notorious trotting horse, now owned by a gentleman in Philadelphia, and those of a "fresh nag" in New York city. The race to come off the ensuing season on the Long Island or Camden course. The terms will be made public, of course, in due time.

[From the Albany Express, March 9.]

The facts of this case are as follows:—On Friday evening Mr. McCardel received a telegraphic dispatch from New York, stating that a gentleman in that city had challenged Mac to trot a match for $20,000, "play or pay," and the friends of the "champion of the turf," requested an answer as to whether an affirmative or acceptance of the proffered challenge should be returned. An immediate answer was despatched with lightning speed to New York, informing them that the match would be made, if Mac could be obtained for the meeting, and was "right for the sport." At the same time a dispatch was forwarded to Philadelphia to the present owner of the unrivaled Mac, and an affirmative answer was received, which was soon communicated to New York, and on Saturday the party challenging "gave up beat," acknowledging that it was a game of bluff," and that he and his backers would not meet Mac.

These are the facts, and the large sum named, with the condition of "play or pay," shows conclusively that it was all "brag." "Play or pay" in this case would have involved the necessity of immediately depositing the sum of $20,000 each in the hands of the umpires, and in case either one failed to appear at the call, the party answering would have possessed the stakes without a skip. If the New Yorkers wish to "brag" or "bluff," they must not turn their eyes to Albany.

Obituary Notices.

DR. JOHN PARK died at Worcester, March 2, in the 78th year of his age. He was the founder of the *Boston Repository*, which he conducted with ability and good judgment for about ten years, during which period he sustained the reputation of a sound scholar and an efficient political writer. On withdrawing from this employment he established a school for the instruction of young ladies, for which employment he was eminently qualified by his literary and classical attainments, his agreeable manners, and his high tone of moral character. The *Worcester Aegis*, in announcing his death, subjoins the following remarks.—For many years Dr. Park lived in retirancy in this place. His taste for a scholar's library and general reading, together with his many social and amiable qualities, have endeared him to society and appreciating friends. He bore symplicity of manners and dignity of demeanor, and passed the tranquil days of a classical scholar and Christian gentleman.

COL. THOMAS HOSSACK was burned to death in his own house at Coolspring, Pa., on the 4th inst. A son of Col. H. saved his life by jumping from a third story window.

FIRE IN MILWAUKEE.—A destructive fire took place in Milwaukee, on the 3d inst. It commenced at the store of T. Littell, No. 100 East Water street. The Milwaukee *Sentinel*, of the 4th inst., says:—The alarm was promptly given, but the fatigue and excitement of election had disposed almost everybody to sleep very soundly, and the startling summons fell for once upon comparatively dull ears. Very few of our citizens, and not more than half of our firemen heard, or heeded the alarm, and it was not without very great exertion that the engines could be dragged through the deep snow, and got to work upon the fire. The flames, meanwhile, spread rapidly through the building in which they first broke out, an explosion of gunpowder blowing open the doors and giving wings to the conflagration. Before it could be checked, Mr. Littell's store was pretty thoroughly gutted, and the upper stories of the one adjoining, occupied by Storm Brothers, suffered serious damage. The sun was up before the firemen were relieved from their arduous labors. The losses and insurances are as follows:—Storm & Brother, building owned by Dr. Jas. Johnson, damaged about $1,500; insured for $2,500 in the Ætna, of Hartford, Conn. Goods insured for $5,000 in the Howard, which about covers the loss. Thompson Littell, building owned by Mrs. Murphy; insured for $2,000 in the Hartford Protection, which covers the loss. Loss on goods about $10,000; insured for $8,000, viz., $3,000 in the Northwestern of Oswego, N. Y., and $5,000 in the Milwaukee Merchants' Mutual. J. Bronoy, auction store, loss on goods, $400; insurance of $1,100 upon building, furniture, store, &c. The upper story of the building was occupied by the Milwaukee City Guards, and their guns and equipage, which were stored there, were destroyed.

Literary Notices.

THE SOUTHERN QUARTERLY REVIEW. January, 1852. Charleston: Walker & Richards.—For learning and talent this magazine stands pre-eminent. The subjects are handled with ability, and the writers display thorough information on their several topics; and their reasoning, notwithstanding their prejudices, is logical, and therefore comprehensive. The opening article is "The Invasion of Cuba," upon which subject the writer appears to have studied available works and pamphlets, in connection with that invasion and the island itself. There can be no doubt but that Lopez himself was deceived as to the support he would receive from the native population, who, although enslaved by the Spanish government, not only failed to render assistance to the expedition, but used efforts of no ordinary kind to punish the invaders. Under the most favorable circumstances offered them to strike the blow for freedom, the Creoles behaved in a base and cowardly manner. We agree therefore with the writer, when he says that this people are not adequate to their own necessities, and that they are too feeble to assert the powers which they possess—too timid to peril anything, even for the attainment of their favorite desires. The writer satisfactorily proves his assertion by a chain of elaborate reasoning. We admire the force and truth with which he has presented the magnanimity of this country towards a comparative powerless state like Spain, and the observance of the strict honor which has guided the States in regard to Cuba, and the way in which he holds up to just contempt her petty pride, which lies at the bottom of her complaints, and which, some day or other, might excite our just resentment. And what support will Cuba derive from England, who makes the condition of her interference the abolition of her slave institutions? Can degradation go further, both in regard to the national existence of Cuba, or in the degraded state of her "free" population? We think not. Can any national or political institution lie on a more rotten basis? We can well understand the "clemency" of the Queen of Spain, in pardoning the American prisoners. There were many political grounds for this step. Cuba cannot long exist as she is; and, in all probability, her change of destinies may soon be brought about by the conduct of her own and the Spanish authorities, as well internally as externally, towards a neighboring empire, which has no superior in power among the nations of the world. "The Pre-Adamite Earth Relations of Geology to Theology," is a review of a work by a Dr. Harris, an English independent minister. The writer, like the author of the work he reviews, evidently starts upon his subject with two facts, to which it is sought to bend the science of geology, to its great jarring with chemistry, astronomy, and the other sciences. We have no desire to dispute the truth of the Bible, or the existence of a God and a Trinity, as developed by it; but we have a right to complain of ingenious and circumscribed reasoning, and that confined to a single branch of science, to establish any premised facts—and those, too, of matters of revelation, of record, and of faith, which, we thought, were all regarded as a part of religion, and with which the sciences had nothing to do. As a matter of argument, it is not right to make axioms of those very points which the logician seeks to prove; and what satisfaction, in point of reason, can result from such a course? That there is a great deal of profundity of thought exhibited, is apparent; but plain scientific facts, plainly considered, would tend more to develope the utmost attainable truth that finite man is capable of possessing. This class of writers pursue science and knowledge to the point where it oversteps the bounds of the human intellect, and then fall back on their preconceived religious doctrines, which is the panacea for their bewildered intellects, and that mystery which has, up to this time, puzzled all enlightened and unenlightened nations, they persuade themselves they have cleared up. It would be just as rational to attempt to square the circle. We should like to answer the writer's arguments *seriatim*, as we admire their profundity and ingenuity. "Modern Art" is remarkable for its genius of bold originality in reviewing the present state of painting and sculpture. We cannot, however, join with the author in raising the Gothic taste of the north above that which was conceived and raised in the classic land to which modern ages are indebted for beauty and refinement. The beauty of Christianity would appear to have emblazoned the Gothic arch to the view of the writer, and to have inspired him with a reverence, beside that for grace, elegance, and beauty, which held their predominance in more genial climes, and under more favorable external circumstances. But though we encourage originality, because we know that the but finite depths of the mind are yet unknown to its finite possessor, we cannot join in denouncing the standards of the ancients as models. The Arts like the sciences, are progressive—like the development of the mind from which they spring. The highest efforts of genius must rest upon something. Phidias and Raphael could add but little to the human image in their classical and unsurpassable productions, much less create new representations. To coincide with the disgust of the writer as to the exhibition of the nude figure in art, we should condemn the great master-pieces which the world has seen, and the tastes of the refined in all ages. Unquestionably the writer has denied to himself the sense of the appreciation of beauty, or a real taste for art. The "Greek Slave," upon which he founds his article, and which he extols, should have corrected his prejudices. The other principal articles are "Battle of Cerro Gordo," and the "Negro Mania Race;" the latter is an able inquiry, and clearly demonstrates the true position of the negro race in the creation, in regard to the other races of mankind. "Treatment of Slaves in the Southern States," cannot fail to remove many existing and absurd prejudices.

ESPY'S REPORT ON METEOROLOGY.—By Prof. Jas. P. Espy.—This work was prepared and published under the sanction of the navy department of the government, and is a work of great importance and value. The science of meteorology is of the highest importance to a maritime nation, and a series of accurate observations, made with the view to establish accurate data, must be invaluable. The laws that are here laid down are the result of a regular course of scientific observation in different portions of the American continent, by gentlemen of eminent scientific attainments. We especially recommend the work to the attention of the mercantile navy; it contains some scientific directions with reference to the weather, which will be much appreciated. The maps, &c., are elaborate and explanatory.

KENNETH; A ROMANCE.—By W. M. Reynolds. 1852: New York; Long. Mr. Reynolds is beginning to assume that respectable position to which his talents as a novelist entitle him.

THE EXPERIENCES OF A BARRISTER. New York; Cornish & Co. Amusing and interesting, but in some respects trashy.

MUSINGS OF AN INVALID. New York; Taylor. Will repay reading—contains some striking descriptions of character, and exhibits vigorous and witty original talent.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—"New York Aristocracy; or, Gems of Japonicadom." "Job Pippins—By Jerrold. "Stoddart's Practical Arithmetic"—a good work. "Religion and Too Much Religion"—A Sermon by Hiram P. Crozier. "French Literary Review"—A new way of teaching the French language—By Richard & Morton. "Verbatim Report of the Congressional Banquet in Honor of Washington." "The People's Edition of Ledges Portaits"—Parts I and 2 containing engravings of notable characters in the first style of art, and taken from original paintings.

THE GOVERNMENT REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS.—Among the foregoing we perceive that the total amount in value of the coinage of the mints, to the close of 1851, is $259,542,542 85; that the further sum required for the completion of the extension of the Capitol is $2,575,000; that there are 511,259 muskets, 61,891 rifles, 26,374 pistols belonging to the government, fit for service; that the revenue of the Post Office for the current fiscal year, it is estimated will amount to $6,007,500; that a naval depot at Key West has been recommended by the committee appointed to inquire into the subject. We observe a resolution of the Legislative Council of Canada, expressive of satisfaction for the donations made in aid of the reconstruction of the library of the Canadian Parliament. The Committee of Commerce, to whom was referred memorials praying for an exploration of such part of the China seas, Straits of Gaspar, and Java sea, as lie in the China route, and also the Arctic seas, have reported favorably. By the report of the Secretary of the Treasury we perceive that the export of the precious metals for the first five months of the current fiscal year, amounts to $27,591,236, which is nearly equal to the export of the entire previous year; that it is estimated that California is producing gold dust probably equal to one hundred millions of dollars a year. The total amount in value of gold bullion imported from California to the States, during the year 1851, was $39,809,476.

PROPOSITION FOR A NEW STATE.—The Legislature of Wisconsin propose to memorialize Congress for the establishment of a new territory, to be comprised of that portion of Michigan lying west of Lake Michigan. This territory, it is alleged, is very much isolated from the States to which it is attached, and has separate and individual interests peculiarly its own, which, under the present organization, do not receive the fostering care of its several governments, which the best interests of the country require. The separation of that territory, it is thought, would result in no disadvantage to the States from which it is proposed to detach it, as they would be more than compensated by the augmented commercial and political advantages of adding another State to the Northwest.

AFFAIRS IN THE CITY.

Common Council.

The Firemen's Remonstrance.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

MARCH 10.—This board met at the usual hour—Mr. Compton, President, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

PETITIONS REFERRED.

Of members of Hook and Ladder Company, No. 4, to have Firemen's Register corrected. Remonstrance of sundry citizens against the proposed grade between Fifty-second and Sixty-second streets. Of John Brady and Wm. Lent, for payment for services rendered to the City Inspector's department. Of David B. Jorney and others, to have Lexington avenue lighted with gas. Of Omnibus drivers, to take the licensing of omnibuses out of the hands of the Mayor. Remonstrance against sewer in Nassau street, between Beekman and Ann streets. Of G. C. Byrne, for lease of southerly side of pier No. 33, North river. Of residents of Eleventh street, to have side walk in said street, between Avenue B and C. Of Property owners and persons doing business in the neighborhood of Fulton ferry, in South street and streets adjacent, asking that the omnibuses be prevented from blocking up South street, near the ferry. Of J. Barnard and 600 others, in Seventh ward, in the vicinity of Jackson ferry, in favor of removal of the Ferry landing on Brooklyn side from Hudson avenue to Bridge street. Remonstrance of the Board of Engineers and Firemen, against the organization of new fire companies. Referred to committee on fire department.

THE REMONSTRANCE OF THE FIREMEN.

To the Hon. the Common Council of the City of New York:

The officers of the New York Fire Department, assembled at a Board of Engineers and Foremen, at Fireman's Hall, on Monday evening, March 8, 1852, have noticed with extreme surprise the organization of so many, and the proposed organization of other, new fire companies; and believing that such measures will not conduce to the benefit of the department, and are opposed to the interests of their fellow-citizens, they do respectfully but earnestly remonstrate against the same, for the following, among many other reasons:—

1.—With but two or three exceptions, they are not required; and upon which most important objection, are based the arguments in favor of others, hereafter assigned. The total force up to Dec. 1, 1851, never exceeded thirty-five engines, fifty-one hose, nine hook and ladder, and three hydrant companies; and but seldom that number—there always existing more or less vacancies, in consequence of companies disbanded, suspended, or withdrawn from the service. Upon reference to the proceedings of the Common Council during the three years preceding Dec. 1, 1851, your honorable body will perceive that the number of new companies, of each class, organized within that period, was five engine, ten hose, and three hook and ladder companies—total eighteen—an average of six companies per year.

There have been organized, or are in process of organization, since the above date to the present time, a period of less than three months, six engine, two hose, and one hook and ladder company—total, nine; or at the rate of thirty-six companies per year, compared to the average of the preceding three years. Again, of the eighteen companies formed during said three years, three were to fill vacancies; whereas the nine since organized are strictly and exclusively new companies.

But there has not been a proportionate increase in the growth of the city during this period, and the average number of fires and alarms is no greater now than it was previously. Hence there is no data upon which to base this enormous addition to the force of the department, and which is unparalleled in its annals, excepting only the occasion when twenty-four companies were organized at one meeting of the Common Council, in 1839, and from the blighting effects of which upon the welfare of the department it took years to recover.

2.—The addition of more companies than are required is injurious instead of beneficial to the department.

Upon reference to the records of the hose companies, the branch generally and necessarily first required, it is found that their apparatus is brought into service, on an average, only once out of three times. Hence, and naturally, a superabundant force would impede the operations of that portion on duty, and greatly impair its efficiency. An honorable rivalry is one of the strongest guarantees of power, especially and peculiarly in this arm of the public service; but the proposed additional companies being unnecessary, the conflict of interests will become more frequent, and the public good will be forgotten in a measure, though unintentionally perhaps, under the excitement of an unwholesome contest for supremacy.

3.—This great accession of new is an act of injustice to the older members of the department. The new companies will be entitled to an aggregate of from 350 to 400 men, against a total of only 570 during the previous three years. As your remonstrants have shown that there is no justification, in their opinion, for the increase of companies, and should your remonstrants be correct in the opinion they have formed that such increase is uncalled for, then such increase is an act of great injustice to the citizen tax payers, while it is a still greater act of injustice to the present active members of the fire department; as some time must elapse before a sufficient number of apparatus can be completed, with which these new companies are to perform duty; whereas, they receive all the benefits of active firemen, from the time of their organization. It must be apparent, then, that there is good reason for complaint. We venture to predict with great respect, that the policy of indiscriminately organizing companies, if persevered in, will not only be productive of discord, but that its baneful influence may lead eventually to a disorganization of the department.

4.—Said companies have been, and others are proposed to be organized, in direct opposition to the judgment of the Chief Engineer, and nearly all his assistants, and in that respect, in violation of every precedent of other years, excepting that of 1839 before alluded to.

5.—As citizens your remonstrants object: That a needless, and consequently onerous, expence will be incurred by the tax paying portion of the community.

The aggregate cost to the city for apparatus and houses, for the eighteen companies organized during the three years preceding December 1, 1851, was, as near as we can ascertain, about $67,750. The expense for outfit of the new companies will be greater in proportion on account of the larger ratio of engine companies, and other probable reasons not necessary to mention; but throwing these considerations aside, and assume as a basis the average above, and the cost to the city treasury will be at the enormous rate of $180,000 per annum, and to this should be added the expenditures for sustaining this additional force, until such period as its creation would have been warranted by the growth of the city, under ordinary circumstances; until then, light as it may be, it would be a burthen upon the tax payers.

In continuing your remonstrants, assembled as aforesaid, ask your respectful consideration of these, their objects, in the full conviction of their justice, and with the belief that your honorable body cannot fail to support, as most previous Common Councils have done, the efficiency of the department which they have the honor to represent.

Adopted—32 ayes; 27 nays.

AYES—Engines 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 22, 26, 29, 32, 42, 45, 49.

Hose 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 35, 37, 40, 42, 43, 44, 46, 50.

Hook and ladder 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12.

Hydrant 2.

NAYS—Engines 1, 5, 6, 8, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 28, 30, 34, 38, 44.

Hose 2, 5, 6, 17, 18, 21, 23, 30, 38, 52, 58.

REPORTS ADOPTED.

Of Committee on Sewers—In favor of concurring with board of Assistant Aldermen for rebuilding of sewer in Second avenue, from Twenty-third to Twenty-fourth street.

The report of Committee on Ordinances—In favor of abolishing the office of City Inspector, was lost, upon not obtaining a constitutional vote.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

That two blocks of Lexington avenue, between Forty-eighth and Fifteenth streets, be regulated. That if the Board of Assistant Aldermen concur, that the Mayor be requested to report to this board, at his earliest convenience, the whole number of policemen detailed for special duty; the number of men, with their names, detailed from each ward; and what special duty each man is detailed to perform, and where performed. That the fire engine recently directed to be located at Fifty-ninth street and Broadway be known and designated as No. 33. The board then adjourned to meet on Friday evening, at five o'clock.

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.

MARCH 10.—Assistant Alderman Brown in the chair.

PETITION REFERRED.

Of John F. Green, for remission of fine. Of Daniel Cromwell and others, for a sewer in Henry street, between Clinton and Jefferson streets.

REPORT.

Of the committee relative to the Hudson River Railroad, adverse to compelling the company to take up their present rail in Hudson street, and put down the grooved rail, and appending the following resolution—That the company be permitted to continue the use of their present rail in Hudson street, provided they put up to the track and keep the same in proper order. Laid on the table.

RESOLUTIONS.

That the Croton Aqueduct Department stay all proceedings in the matter of constructing a sewer in Hudson street, between Morton and Barrow streets, until further advised by the Common Council. Adopted. That his Honor the Mayor be and is hereby requested to equalize the number of policemen detailed for special duty, as prescribed by the ordinance, allowed in each ward. Concurred in. In favor of allowing $100 to the widow of George Ridley, late policeman of the Fifth ward, who lost his life by ship fever, contracted while in the discharge of his duty. Adopted. That the Mayor be requested to report to this Board, at his earliest convenience, the whole number of policemen detailed for special duty, the number of men, with their names, detailed from each ward, and what special duty each man is detailed to perform. Concurred in from the other Board.

REPORT ADOPTED.

In favor of concurring with the other Board, to sell city property, No. 111 Roosevelt street.

REMONSTRANCE.

Of the Board of Fire Engineers and Foremen against the organization of new fire companies.

The Empire Building and Mutual Loan Association.

This association, which has only been organized about five weeks, held their second monthly meeting last Tuesday evening, at the Mercer House, corner of Mercer and Broome streets—Joseph R. Taylor, President, in the chair. The attendance was not numerous.

The Secretary, Dr. J. Weldon Fell, reported that the shares had been taken up to the number of about 790, leaving, according to the course they had resolved to adopt, about ten remaining. These were all taken up in the course of the evening, by persons in the room.

This association limits the amount of shares to one thousand, but have determined to close at eight hundred—the other two hundred being reserved for subscribers holding one or two shares, who are to be permitted to take three or four more each, making, in all, five.

The new subscribers' names being entered, and the subscriptions paid in, the meeting separated—the next being announced for the first Tuesday in April.

City Intelligence.

FIRE.—About half-past six o'clock Wednesday evening, a fire broke out in the grocery store, No. 682 Washington street, occupied by John Schackenberg. It originated from the bursting of a camphene lamp. Officer Carpenter, with the assistance of several citizens, succeeded in extinguishing the fire, without its causing much damage to the premises.

ACCIDENT.—About four o'clock Wednesday afternoon, a man named Barnard Learey, while engaged at work on a new building in Eighth street, near avenue D, fell from a ladder, breaking an arm, and severely injuring his head. He was conveyed home on a cart, by officers March and Robb, of the Eleventh ward.

ANOTHER RESURRECTIONIST CASE.—About two o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Herman Dorlin was caught, at the foot of Twenty-first street, East river, with a cargo of human bodies. A carman, named Elias E. Cain had just taken a load, and was in the act of returning for another, when he was arrested by officers Brown and Birdsall, of the Eighteenth ward, who brought him to the station house. The Coroner was notified to attend; and on examining the boat, twelve shrouds and four bodies, in barrels, were discovered. The marks on the barrels were "C. Newton, Worcester, Mass., via Norwich and Worcester Railroad;" "J. French, Woodstock, Vermont, via New Haven and Connecticut Railroad, Sullivan and Vermont Central Railroads."

RESCUED FROM DROWNING.—On Tuesday, about half-past eight o'clock, William Young fell into the river at the foot of Beekman street, and was rescued from drowning by the exertions of officer Kline, who threw him a rope.

Court of General Sessions.

Before Judge Beebe and Aldermen Brisley and Francis.

MARCH 9.—*Bigamy—Sentence.*—Albert Davis, alias Geo. Addison, convicted last week of the above crime, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment at Sing Sing.

Arson in Broadway—Trial and Conviction.—John E. Brand, a genteel looking young man, was indicted for arson in the third and fourth degrees, on the premises 36 Broadway, on the 15th December last. The fire occurred in an office or store on the second floor, which was occupied by Hubert Brandenberger, and the prisoner was, at the time, connected with him as clerk or partner (which did not appear) in the business of importing kid gloves, &c. They were originally indicted together, but the indictment was quashed, having been superseded by another found against Brand alone, and on which he was now tried.

John C. Craig, sworn for the prosecution, deposed—He was one of the fire patrol on the 15th December last; an alarm was given about seven o'clock, and he went to 36 Broadway; broke in the door, and went up to the second floor, to the office occupied by Mr. Brandenberger; there he saw books open and lying about; some wood was piled up by the side of the desk, and under the wood was the box produced (a round paper wafer box with a hole in the top), with a fusee in it half an inch long; saw a case of gloves in front of the store; there was some more wood piled up about the boxes, and some paper ones empty, some with gloves in; there were some pieces of punk, similar to the fusee, in the desk, which had not been lighted; the gloves were saturated with camphene; the sides of the partition were on fire, and had been burnt; the doors to Brandenberger's premises were open; it was Mr. Cook's door that he burst open.

James D. Tompkins—Was porter to Mr. Cook, down stairs; Mr. Brandenberger occupied up stairs; when it was time to close, he gave them notice, and locked up; on that day Mr. Brand went out last—that was about half-past five o'clock; had known Brand in the employment of Brandenberger two or three months.

Peter A. Wallace—Knew Brand and Brandenberger; remember the fire; was going into the store about five o'clock; met Mr. Brand coming out, who said it was time to leave, and he must shut up, and despatched witness very quickly; there was a light burning there, a candle; the prisoner seemed to be packing and re-packing gloves. Adjourned.

MARCH 10.—The trial of John E. Brand was resumed.

Sophia Smith, for the people—Lived on Fulton avenue, Bedford, L. I.; about a week before the 24th December, the prisoner, whom she had known for three years, came to her house one Monday evening, and remained till the Thursday following; he said he thought he had got into a bit of a muss, and would keep out of the way for a night or two; he said he would tell her in the morning what it was; in the morning he sent for a newspaper; he then said there had been a fire in New York, and witness then saw Brandenberger's name in the paper; the prisoner said he was not in the fault, and the insurance was not for that amount; he further said he was the last on the premises, and that was the reason he moved away; on the Thursday morning Brandenberger came with a person she understood to be an officer; Brand was in the basement when they came; she had not seen him since, except in court. The witness gave her testimony very unwillingly.

Cross-examined—Knew Brand, and his wife, and child; they had visited her before she moved to Bedford; Brand had always borne a good character.

James Martin, of the Sixth Ward Police—Went to the last witness's house with Captain Garrett, when he arrested Brand; when the latter was brought into Brandenberger's presence he said, "It's all up with us;" they afterwards spoke French, and witness cautioned his captain to keep them apart.

John Garrett sworn—Was captain of the Sixth ward police; arrested the prisoner, who had got over a fence about fifty feet from the house, and ran about 300 yards further; witness told him if he did not stop he would shoot; he stopped to pick up his goggles, or green spectacles, he had on; heard the expression distinctly as mentioned by Martin.

Charles McDougal, of the First ward police—Saw the fire, and gave the alarm, about ten minutes before seven o'clock; broke in, and went up stairs. The witness corroborated Craig's account of finding the wafer box, and combustible materials, &c. He left it as he found it, and went to give the alarm at the station, and tell his captain; did not think there was over $3,000 worth of property on the premises; William S. Toole lessee of the premises, let the office and small room next to it to Brandenberger; saw the place the morning after the fire, with firewood piled on the floor, which, with the partition, was charred and burnt.

John B. Terry, of Brooklyn, deposed—On Saturday, a week before the 23d of December, the prisoner borrowed a wagon of him, and was away for an hour and a-half; he saw some white muslin bags in it; thought they contained paper; it was something soft; they were not very heavy; prisoner told him he was going to New York.

John Love, carman—Brought on the 12th of December two boxes from the store in Broadway to Brand's house in Brooklyn; they were not very heavy; the next day he took one thence to the store; he was employed by Brand.

James Quigley