New York Hotels.

THE PRESCOTT HOUSE—ITS GORGEOUS DECORATIONS.

The last year will hereafter be regarded as an epoch in the history of the hotels of New York. The Crystal Palace, and the anticipated rush of strangers in our city, has turned the attention of many of our capitalists and most enterprising citizens into this channel of business, and each has vied with the other to rear the most gorgeous structure, where one might most agreeably enjoy his *otium cum dignitate*. In the exercise of this spirit, blocks have been demolished, and upon the site of their ruins have arisen marble palaces and stately structures, surpassing, in their splendid halls and golden drapery, all of which poets have written or bards have sung. The Metropolitan, with its marble pillars and luxurious folds; the St. Nicholas, with its mirrored parlors and damasked walls, and Taylor's, with its gold draped ceilings and transparent fountains, have all had their share of public praise, and must now bow to others, as others have bowed to them. The Prescott House, on the corner of Broadway and Spring street, is almost finished, and has eclipsed, thus far, all competitors. This hotel has been a long while in building, and, on account of the quietness with which its work has been carried on, the public attention has not been attracted to it. But while the other hotels were heralded to the world, each as the greatest triumph of elegance and skill, silently, within the walls of the Prescott, was going on the work of ornament and decoration, which was ultimately to win the palm. In fact, so quietly has been performed the work of the interior, that it was thought by many all labor upon it had long since ceased, and the pedestrian, as he cast his eye upon the exterior, and admired its architecture, mingled his praises of the building with words of commiseration for the proprietor, who, as was supposed, had undertaken a work he was unable to complete. In spite, however, of opposition and false report, Capt. Degroot, the proprietor, has come out of the contest "right side up," as his works will show, when the public are admitted to make an examination. This hotel will be opened in a few days, and, from personal observation, we are already able to lay a sketch of it before our readers. The building, when completed through to Mercer street, which, we learn, is the design of Capt. Degroot, will accommodate from three hundred to three hundred and fifty guests. The main hall on the ground floor is one hundred and twenty-five feet deep, by about twenty feet wide. The entrance to this is on Broadway, and in this hall we have a magnificence which rivals all our conceptions of Oriental splendor. The floors are composed of mosaic work, which material we have spoken of as among the most valuable and ornamental contributions of the Crystal Palace. With this mosaic the floor is laid out into octagons, interspersed with squares variegated with swans, flowers and other designs. This material, composing the entire ground floor, including the main hall, barroom, &c., was specially imported for the Prescott House, at an immense cost, and is the only floor of the kind in the United States. Its various colors, polished surface, and rich appearance, are beyond description. Through the middle of this hall stands a row of pillars, highly decorated, and surmounted with Corinthian caps; lengthwise from column to column, and crosswise, from wall to pillar and from pillar to wall, are arches, thus dividing the ceiling into quarter sections, each section being splendidly embellished with architectural designs. Upon the sides of this hall are various paintings, representing the costumes of the Court of Louis the 14th of France, each painting being a work of artistic merit. The architecture of this hall is a beautiful and harmonious union of Elizabethan and Corinthian, but that of the barroom is of the Moorish style. On each side of the row of pillars, through the hall, hangs a row of brilliant chandeliers.

The office at the end of the hall is fitted up with the most lavish expense; corpes from ancient architectural designs, cast in zinc, ornament the wall and give an historical interest to the whole. On each side of the office is an entrance into the barroom, which is on a level with the ground floor. This room, like the other, is all that money or artistic genius can produce. In the office, Capt. Degroot has taken the precaution to arrange a beautiful steam guage, which indicates to the guests every inch of steam used, thus allaying all apprehensions which may arise from explosion &c. The guage is a beautiful ornament, having the appearance of a clock, with one hand, the face of it being composed of papier mache. Near the office, upon the scroll of the stairway, stands victory, a figure about four feet high, and made of zinc. In one hand she holds the palm, and in the other the wreath of victory. The figure is bronzed and gilt.

The stairway is of solid iron, constructed in the building at an enormous cost, and reaching from the cellar to the roof. This is the first instance, we believe, that such a guard against fire was ever placed in a hotel in this country.

The dining-room on the second floor is built in a style in keeping with the brilliancy of the floor already described. It is capable of seating 200 guests, and is heated with steam pipes, enclosed with iron trellis work. The ceiling is supported by Corinthian columns, and on all sides are painted, in the most beautiful style, various fruits and flowers. Almost the entire surface of this room glitters with gold, and at each end of it is a mirror, reaching from floor to ceiling, both set in very large and richly carved frames.

From here we passed into the parlors. We supposed we had seen the perfection of embellishment, when we had examined the lower hall and dining-room, but when we stepped into the parlors our mistake was manifest. The parlors extend the entire width of the building on Broadway, and in the centre of the room stand two Egyptian columns, supporting two arches, all wrought and ornamented to the extent of human ingenuity. Around the parlors are hung beautiful mirrors, and from the ceiling are suspended gorgeous chandeliers. It is impossible to give a true conception of the richness of this room. It must be seen to be known.

The work of the hotel is carried on by steam. In the basement is an engine of twenty five horse power, that supplies the different rooms with hot and cold water, which is sent even to the highest story of the building, where are several water tanks, a precaution against fire. The two large steam boilers of the hotel are placed in an open yard, thus being a guard against injury, in case of an explosion.

The kitchen, washing, and pastry rooms, and the other divisions for the different labors of the house, are all upon an extensive scale, and unsurpassed by any other hotel in the city, or, perhaps, in the world.

We have thus far given only a limited notice of the Prescott House. Only the architectural beauty of the hotel has been alluded to, and that of but two floors. The furniture, which we have not space now to particularize, is as gorgeous as anything ever manufactured. The Prescott House, named after Wm. H. Prescott, the American historian, and is well worthy of this illustrious appellation. This entire structure was built under the direct superintendence of its proprietor, Captain Degroot, who is well known to our citizens, having been for many years the commander of the Reindeer and other steamers, of the North river. In the hotel which his unwearied patience has at last completed, nothing can be suggested as an improvement. Everything that could add to the security and comfort of its visitors has been provided with that generous profusion which is characteristic of its gentlemanly proprietor.

A HORRIBLE AFFAIR.—One of the most bloody deeds on record, was committed not long since by the incentives and unprincipled wretch, Dr. S. M. W. D. L. Miller, on the person of Mr. Alpheus Jones, a respectable citizen of this county. The facts in relation to this outrage are as follows:—Said Miller had, for some months, been in the employment of said Jones and on the night of the 5th June last, Jones' wife lost his watch and crept softly to that of Dr. Miller; to which place Jones soon followed her, and attempted to drag her out of bed; but while doing this, Miller cruelly stabbed and chopped him with a huge knife, which is supposed to have been concealed about the bed. After receiving many death-dealing strokes from this midnight assassin, Jones, with his entrails in his hands, fled to the house of his neighbor, Mr. Supples, to which place he was pursued by Mrs. Jones and Miller, who had a double-barrelled gun. Fortunately, Jones, who was judicious enough to abandon the road and take to the woods, reached there before them, and fell exhausted in the door just as they arrived at the gate. Not being allowed entrance, they both returned to Jones' house. After ransacking the house for Jones' money, (about $100) but which, during their absence, had been secured by Jones' mother, an aged and decrepid lady, Miller mounted his horse and took flight. Mr. Jones has lain in a hopeless and deplorable condition at the house of Mr. Supple, ever since, until his death on Friday last.—*Montgomery (Ala.) Journ., 16th.*

MURDER IN CINCINNATI.—Gas alley, a noted place for rowdyism, drunkenness and murders, was the scene of another bloody affray on Saturday night, which resulted in the murder of a man named Joseph Adams. We learn that a man named James Heffner and Adams got into a quarrel in regard to a trivial matter, when Adams picked up a brickbat and threw it at Heffner, striking him on the back. Heffner drew a pistol and fired back at Adams, the contents entering his forehead and lodging in his brain. Medical aid was procured for the wounded man, but the physician in attendance pronounced his case hopeless. He died about ten o'clock in great agony. Heffner was arrested by officer Starr, and lodged in the watch-house. His examination will take place on Wednesday. This is the fourth murder within the last three months.—*Cincinnati Gazette, July 12.*

Laying of the Corner Stone of St. Peter's Church, Poughkeepsie, by Archbishop Hughes.

FROM OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.

Last Tuesday afternoon, at half past five o'clock, the ceremony of laying the corner stone of St. Peter's Church, Mill street, Poughkeepsie, took place with the usual ceremonies, in the presence of about one thousand people.

The ceremonies commenced with reading the 126th Psalm, which was followed by chanting the 50th and 86th Psalms.

A prayer having been offered up by one of the clergymen present, his Grace the Archbishop then took a silver trowel, and having in his hand the box containing sundry records, newspapers, coins, &c., deposited it in the hollow of the stone, and proceeded to lay the corner stone of the building in the usual form.

Archbishop Hughes proceeded to deliver his sermon for the occasion. He began by saying they had first disposed of the prescribed forms of the ritual of laying the corner stone of the house to be erected to the honor and services of Almighty God. It was for them an auspicious occasion—it was an evidence of their increasing numbers, and was also evidence of their increasing zeal and fidelity to their holy religion. But a short time ago one or two priests would be sufficient to watch over the entire flock between there and Albany. It was a beautiful project, indeed, to erect a house for the worship of God overlooking the noble Hudson. It might be to many a subject of curiosity, to understand why it was that so much ceremony should be used—why a sermon should be preached—why so many psalms should be chanted, and why the corner stone should be sprinkled with holy water. Those things appeared in the eyes of those who did not understand the matter as unintelligible and superstitious. All these forms have a meaning. All the chanting and the sermon preached on the occasion had a meaning, not as regards the rude material, but for the ends they were set apart. He did not mean to say that the stones were made holy, for they were inanimate, but were consecrated to the services of Almighty God. There was a reason why those ceremonies were used. When God had created man in the Garden of Eden innocence smiled there; but sin has reduced that beautiful world to one of villany and wickedness. The world before the fall of Adam was the temple, in which God was the supreme object of adoration, and he (Adam) was the interpreter of his wisdom and power; but after he fell from his innocence the whole temple was polluted, and God, disobeyed, inflicted man's guilt on the inanimate things. The very earth was changed by his decree. Every day they witnessed the increasing force of God's decree after the fall of Adam. It was no mystery why he punished the world for its wickedness; the only mystery which he could not solve, and which never had been solved, was why God permits sin to remain in the world. By the sin of Adam came death to the human race. All things, even inanimate, were since that time polluted, therefore it became necessary to consecrate the stones that formed the buildings erected for the worship of the Almighty God. But although God had cursed the earth, he still, from his mercy, resolved to save sinners by sending a Messiah to the posterity of Adam. Hence the promise of the Messiah proclaimed in the sacrifice and in type. How important was it for them to remember that the testimony of the truth alone could save them. Thus God had redeemed man from his fearful and awful condition by sending a Saviour descended from Adam himself into the world, to save us. Does not every day bring forth some evidence of the force and duration of God's decree upon the fall of our first parents. Thus man, by the sweat of his brow, has to earn his bread, until he shall return to that dust from whence he came. The Greeks had some peculiar belief about man; they saw him laboring in pain, and yet could not explain why he was not enjoying himself. He did not suppose that the Almighty God took pleasure in inflicting pain on mankind. Again, he said that it was a great mystery why God permitted sin to exist; but still man would not be free unless he had the power to pay the Almighty homage at his pleasure. God's love for us was plainly visible; they should easily comprehend that in his love and mercy for us he took man's image upon him. He could very easily account for all the plagues to which mankind were subjected—for the famines, wars, and sickness with which they were visited. There was another reason why the ceremonies should be used at a consecration, which was because the building was an offering of the poor, which made every stone a corner stone, and because the edifice was to be dedicated to Divine truth. He concluded by earnestly exhorting them to continue in their zeal in the work that had so vigorously begun. There they would have their children baptized, and there parties would be united in the bonds of holy wedlock. They had chosen a good site for their church, and had every opportunity to prosper, if they would avoid all that was evil, and practice all that was holy and good.

The services having been concluded, the assemblage departed, highly gratified with the ceremonies. His Grace then retired, in company with the other members of the clergy officiating on the occasion.

This building is situated on a high bank, overlooking the Hudson river, and commanding a fine view of the surrounding scenery. It is an addition to the church already built. The dimensions are fifty-two feet front, and seventy-five feet deep. The building will be constructed entirely of brick, and when connected with the building now standing will form a cross. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Mr. O'Reardon. His congregation numbers about fifteen hundred. The expense of building the church will cost about $6,000.

The late Case of Suicide at New Rochelle.

Since announcing the melancholy suicide of Franklin C. Gray, late of the Fifth avenue, the following additional particulars have been obtained.

Mr. Gray was a native of Kentucky, and went to California in the early part of 1849, and remained there until last fall. During his residence in San Francisco he accumulated a large fortune, which consists principally in real estate there. For two years he was an Alderman, and much esteemed. On returning from California, he spent much of his time in Washington, where he had considerable business to transact; and while there he became acquainted with Miss French, of Washington, a young lady of high respectability and a native of Virginia, to whom he was married in the latter part of February or beginning of March last. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Gray prepared to return to California, but in consequence of the indisposition of his wife he deferred doing so, and came to this city and purchased a house in the Fifth avenue, and furnished it in princely style, and in which he, Mrs. Gray, and Mrs. French resided until Tuesday, the 12th inst., when, at the request of Mr. Gray, his lady and her mother returned to their establishment in Washington, promising to follow them on Thursday, the 14th inst., having, as he alleged, resolved to return at an early day to California, whither Mrs. G. was to accompany him. Mr. Gray not proceeding to Washington according to promise, Mrs. French immediately dispatched her son, Mr. James French, to ascertain whether anything was the matter. In the meantime Mr. Conant, of Brooklyn, visited Mr. Gray at his residence in the Fifth avenue, and found him confined to his bed by illness, and labouring under extreme depression of spirits, and at once determined him to be removed to his own residence in Brooklyn, and had him watched closely lest some accident should befall him. Mr. French on ascertaining that Mr. Gray was safe, appeared to be overjoyed, and manifested the greatest attachment for him, and then returned to Washington for his sister, Mrs. Gray, who immediately started, accompanied by her brother, to join her husband; but previous to her arrival, Mr. Gray had gone up to New Rochelle with Major Sears, as he said, to see the place, and if he liked it to select apartments for himself, wife and Mrs. French's family.

In accordance with the suggestions of Mr. Conant, on 28 Monday, an intimate friend of Mr. Gray, Major Sears endeavored to entertain the deceased as agreeably as possible, and at the same time keep a strict watch of his movements on account of his despondency, but during a momentary absence of Major Sears, Mr. Gray stepped out of the Pavilion Hotel, at New Rochelle, and wandered to the railroad depot, where he was observed to proceed up the track with his head down and hands clasped, as if in deep thought or depressed. While standing in a dangerous position he was warned by a little girl of the approach of a train, but he replied that he didn't care for the cars, and almost instantly leaped between the two tracks, where he remained until the express train was within a short distance, when he was seen to throw himself across the track, resulting totally, as before stated.

From various letters written by deceased to his wife, it is evident that he and his lady lived upon the very best terms, and that Mr. G. doubted his wife. A few days prior to the melancholy event, he had a will made out, bequeathing all his property to his wife unconditionally, but in consequence of some interlineations made in it, he was dissatisfied with it, and directed his counsel to prepare another without those defects, which, however, he neglected to sign by hurrying off to New Rochelle. Mrs. G. is said to be in a delicate situation, and on that account the manner in which her husband came to his death has not yet been revealed to her, although she is aware of his death. She appears anxious to see his will, or his bed and his watch, but it is doubtful whether either of her wishes will be complied with.

The cause of his despondency is attributed by his friends to his relaxation from active life, such as he had been engaged in during his residence in California.

United States District Court.

Before Hon. Judge Ingersoll.

JULY 19.—*The United States vs. Theodore E. Rossie*—On application of Mr. Dunning, Associate District Attorney, the bail of the accused in this case was increased from $5,000 to $8,000, and the trial further postponed. Rossie, it will be remembered, is charged with the recent Post Office robbery of jewelry and other articles, which were placed in letters, not intended for transmission, but as decoys to entrap him.

The Provincial Law Regulating the Fisheries.

We published last week the existing treaty stipulations between Great Britain and the United States, and other foreign powers relative to the fisheries. The following is an abstract of the present law of Nova Scotia for their regulation, which we insert for the information of those of our fishermen who are about sailing, or preparing to engage in a pursuit which may render them amenable to its provisions.

By the first section, "officers of the colonial revenue, sheriffs, magistrates, and any other person duly commissioned for that purpose, may go on board any vessel or boat within any harbor in the province, or hovering within three marine miles of any of the coasts or harbors thereof, and remain on board while she is within such place or distance."

It is further provided, that if such vessel or boat remain twenty-four hours after having been required to depart, "either of the officers above mentioned may bring her into port and search her cargo, and also examine the master upon oath touching the cargo and voyage," and if he shall not answer the questions demanded of him he shall forfeit £100, and any prohibited goods on board shall be forfeited.

If any foreign vessel "shall have been found fishing, or preparing to fish, or to have been fishing within three marine miles of such coast or harbors, such vessel or boat and the cargo shall be forfeited." All goods, vessels and boats liable to forfeiture, may be seized and secured by such officers or other persons so authorized, and every person opposing them or aiding in such opposition shall forfeit £200.

The fifth and sixth sections provide for the custody of vessels and goods that have been seized, and prescribe the manner in which vessels or goods that have been condemned shall be disposed of, and how the proceeds shall be applied; and the seventh section gives the Admiralty Court jurisdiction for the recovery of penalties and forfeitures under the act; the Judge of which Court, with the consent of parties making seizures, may order there delivery of vessels or goods when seized on security by bond. When condemnation takes place, the value of the property for which bond has been given is to be paid into Court, one half of which amount is to be allowed the seizers, and the other half, after deducting all costs that have been incurred, is to be paid into the Provincial treasury.

All suits for penalties or forfeitures are to be in the name of the Queen, to be prosecuted by the Advocate or Solicitor General; and in case of dispute as to whether a person were authorized to make seizure, oral evidence may be heard thereupon, and proof touching the illegality thereof shall be upon the owner or claimant. No claim to anything seized and returned for adjudication shall be admitted except under oath, to be made by the owner, his attorney or agent, and no person shall enter a claim until security shall have been given, not exceeding £60, to answer and pay costs; and in default of such security the things seized shall be adjudged forfeited and condemned.

Section the thirteenth provides that no writ shall be sued out against any officer or person making a seizure until one month after notice in writing shall have been given, stating full particulars as to the cause of action, the name and residence of the claimant bringing the action, and restricting the evidence that shall be given to what is contained in such notice of action, which must be brought within three months after the cause thereof has arisen. If on any information or suit brought to trial on account of any seizure, judgment shall be given for the claimant, and the judge shall certify that there was probable cause of seizure, the claimant shall not recover costs, nor shall the person making the seizure be liable to any action or suit on account thereof. And if any suit shall be brought against such seizer, and judgment be given against him, if the Judge shall similarly certify, then the plaintiff, besides the thing seized or its value, shall not recover more than twopence damages, nor any costs of suit, nor shall the defendant be fined more than one shilling. The seizing officer may tender amends within one month after notice of action, and may afterwards plead such tender; and all actions for recovery of forfeitures or penalties must be commenced within three years. All appeals must be prosecuted within twelve months from the decree on sentence being pronounced.

The nineteenth and twentieth sections provide that Provincial vessels shall, when engaged in the coasting trade, be provided with a strip of board on the after part of the keel, to prevent the rudder from interfering with fishing nets when set, and render the owners or masters of vessels not so provided liable to a penalty of five pounds, besides subjecting them to an action for damages. The last section declares that the term "vessels" shall include ships, and that "harbors" shall include ports, bays and creeks.

Liabilities of Railroad Companies.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT.

Before Judge Green.

Andrew Kennedy against the President, &c., of the New York and Erie Railroad Company. This action is for the recovery of damages alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiff by reason of the great delay of the defendants in transporting on their road fifteen head of cattle, belonging to plaintiff, from Owego to this city.

It appears from the testimony that the plaintiff placed on freight on the defendant's cars at Owego fifteen head of cattle in good order on Tuesday morning, the 23d day of November last, and that they arrived at Piermont on Saturday morning following, and fourteen of them in the city of New York on the following Sunday morning, the other one having been so far injured that they could not bring him down to the city, and the agent of the company sold him for $6. He subsequently died. The plaintiff accompanied the cattle, and made every exertion to procure feed and water for them at the different stopping places, but was unable to procure feed at over two places on the route. He used every care that was within his means, but, notwithstanding such care, they were so much injured by the delay on the road that they had depreciated in value in the sum of at least four dollars each, and the one that died was worth twenty dollars; that the usual time taken to transport cattle on that route was from thirty-six to forty hours.

The defendants offered in evidence a printed notice, containing the following clause:—"At these prices the company will not assume any responsibility for injuries which may be received by the animals, in consequence of any of them being wild, vicious, untrdy, weak, or from any delay in reaching their destination at the usual time, as per time tables of this road, or in consequence of heat, suffocation, or other ill-effects of being crowded, either upon the cars or barges of the company." To which notice was appended the following certificate, purporting to have been signed by the plaintiff:—"I, Andrew Kennedy, have this day shipped fifteen head of cattle from Owego station, on the New York and Erie Railroad, destined to New York station, on the terms and conditions specified in the above notice—November 23, 1852," but failing to prove the signature to be the plaintiff's, the Judge would not admit it in evidence. The defendant's counsel then offered to prove that they received this paper attached to a copy of the way bill at their office in this city from their office at Owego. The Judge rejected the testimony, on the ground that there was no proof that the signature was in the handwriting of the plaintiff or his agent duly authorized to sign the same.

The Judge in his opinion, says that the defendant's counsel insists that the paper in question has been sufficiently proved to entitle it to be considered in evidence and that by it the plaintiff expressly agrees to waive all damages he may sustain in consequence of the delay on their road. In this I think he is mistaken; there has been no proof produced before me that the plaintiff ever signed the agreement in question, or ever authorized it to be signed; but if this agreement had been proved I do not think it will bear the construction contended for by the defendant. I apprehend the true construction to be this: that the company would not be liable for ordinary delay in reaching the place of destination; but that will not exempt them from damages occasioned by extraordinary delay, such as occurred in this case, and that, too, without any apparent cause. I shall therefore render judgment for the plaintiff for the amount of damages proved, that is $76, besides costs.

FIRE AT BILOXI.—We learn from a gentleman who arrived yesterday on the mail boat from Biloxi, that on Saturday afternoon last the brick sheds and building attached, belonging to W. G. Kendall, Postmaster of this city, were burned to the ground, together with the machinery used in making the bricks. The total loss is said to be between thirty and forty thousand dollars, but as there was some insurance on the machinery Mr. Kendall's loss will be somewhere between twenty five and thirty thousand dollars. Mr. Kendall is the contractor for furnishing bricks for the new Custom House, but we hear that he has a sufficient stock on hand to supply the demand until the machinery has been repaired, which will be about January next.—*New Orleans Picayune, July 13.*

QUERY FOR THE SCIENTIFIC.—On Monday, the 11th inst., at 8 o'clock, the tail of a kite became entangled in the telegraph wires of a line running through Main street, Port Chester. It took fire at its connection with both wires, and the place between the wires, as well as the tail under the wires, fell to the ground, burned, and went out. This was witnessed by some of the most respectable persons in Port Chester, who are willing to substantiate this statement.—*New Rochelle News, July 15.*

ADJOURNMENT OF THE WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE.—The Legislature adjourned on the 12th inst. Among its last acts were the defeat of the Fulton Railroad bill, by a tie vote, and the passage of a large number of appropriation bills. The State treasury is bankrupt, there not being money enough left to pay the members of the Legislature a moiety of their per diem. To supply the deficit there must be another resort to taxation.—*Milwaukie News, July 11.*

The Democratic State Committee.

REPORTED BY THE WAY OF ALBANY.

[From the Albany Argus, July 18.]

We publish to-day the official account of the proceedings of the Democratic State Committee, held in New York city, pursuant to notice, on Friday last.

Our telegraphic despatch, published on Saturday, will have prepared our readers for the leading incidents of the meeting—the organization of the committee, for the first time since its establishment by the State Convention; the adoption of resolutions cordially approving of the principles and doctrines laid down in the Baltimore Platform, and re-promulgated in the President's Inaugural; the approval of the proposed constitutional amendments; the calling of a State Convention; and the secession of the only free soil or barnburner members of the committee in attendance.

Our correspondent's letter, published below, in connection with the official account of the proceedings, supplies all the details which are essential to an entire understanding of the affair.

It will be seen that because the State Committee preferred to promulgate as its own the doctrines and principles of the national democracy, as proclaimed at Baltimore, and reiterated in the inaugural—and to do this in the identical language of the inaugural, as embodied in the series of resolutions introduced by Mr. D. B. Taylor in the Assembly, and adopted by that body—the free soil members of the committee, following the lead of the free soil members of the House, when brought to the test of a vote on them, shrunk from the ordeal, and left the room in which the committee were assembled! The scene was a repetition, though on a smaller scale, of the "stampede of the Buffaloes" in the Assembly, led off by the Speaker, a short time before, and adds, if possible, significance and importance to that memorable "show of heels," instead of hands, on the cardinal points of faith and practice, with which the democracy of the Union and the democratic administration stand identified before the country.

The facts, connected or otherwise, are eminently suggestive. They speak for themselves of the alienage, now as heretofore, of the free-soil faction in this State, from all affinity with the common brotherhood of the national democracy, and form an instructive lesson for the study of political doctors and teachers, here and elsewhere.

MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE.

[Correspondence of the Argus.]

NEW YORK, Friday, July 15, 1853.

The State Committee met to day at the Astor House, and another illustration of the peculiar attachment of the barnburners to union and harmony, and of their devotion to democratic principles, was afforded, scarcely less significant than that which the Speaker and his friends gave us some weeks since in the Assembly. The minority bolted, as they did on that occasion, and refused the endorsement of the Baltimore platform, the President's inaugural, and the constitutional amendment, which the majority, with entire unanimity, have held forth to the world.

Shortly after four o'clock the chair was taken by Hon. Minor C. Story, as chairman *pro tem.*, and a permanent organization effected by choosing that gentleman chairman, and James I. Johnson, Esq., secretary. Messrs. Birdsall, Dillon, and Tremaine, as a sub-committee, reported a series of resolutions, setting forth the sentiments of the committee, and of the democracy, upon State and national principles, and calling a State convention on the 13th of September, which, after a few remarks from Messrs. Adams and West, were adopted, without a dissenting vote.

The committee being then about to adjourn, having completed its business, it was perceived that Messrs. Potter and Smith, barnburners, were missing. When or how they had left the room nobody appeared to know; but as John Van Buren, Fowler, Cochran and other illustrious freesoilers, had been perambulating the outside, during the deliberations of the committee, it seemed probable that the departed committee men had been invited to "step out" some minutes before. Whether the object was a visit to President Pierce, who was then in the building, or the avoidance of an approval of his inaugural address, must be left, perhaps, forever in mystery. The last that had been heard from either of these gentlemen during the session of the committee had been a proposition from Mr. Potter to appoint the 13th of September for the holding of the convention, to which the other members of the committee had assented. Mr. Smith, too, it was remembered, had proposed Syracuse as the place.

The tone of the platform adopted is excellent. You will perceive that it embodies substantially the three resolutions passed by the Assembly, and known as the Taylor resolutions, without Gale or Champlin "dodges." In this respect, it places the democracy of the State on the proper and only true ground. The endorsement of the constitutional amendment, with the tribute deservedly paid to the eight democratic senators who supported it so manfully, is emphatic and unmistakeable. The man who cannot stand on this platform may well doubt his accordance with democratic principles. And I may add, that the man who repudiates it has no business in the democratic ranks.

With the exception of this small sized "stampede of the Buffaloes," the proceedings of the committee were conducted with absolute unanimity and good feeling. They separated, feeling that a blow had been struck to day in the right quarter; and proud that the democracy of New York stood once more before the world in their old attitude, with hostility to slavery agitation and friendship to internal improvements engraven in undying characters upon their standard.

Brooklyn City Intelligence.

FELL FROM A BUILDING.—On Monday afternoon a laborer, employed on the fourth story of a building in course of completion, on the corner of Fourth place and Court street, accidentally lost his balance and fell to the pavement below, a distance of some forty feet. He was picked up more dead than alive, and taken to the City Hospital for treatment. His injuries are of such a nature that it is impossible for him to recover. The name of the unfortunate man is James Neil; he resides in Twenty first street, New York, twenty five years of age, and without family.

BIT OFF HIS LIP.—On Sunday evening two men named Dennis McNamara and Carline Hines, got into fight at Tinkersville, where both reside, on account of a sixpence which one owed the other, in which the latter bit off the lower lip of the former. Hines was brought before Justice Blatchley, of the Third district Police Court, and committed for a further hearing on the charge.

CITY MORTALITY.—The total number of deaths in this city during the past week are reported to be 88, of which 47 were males and 41 females. Of this number 23 were adults, and 65 children. Of the diseases, 3 died of cholera, 14 of cholera infantum, and 1 of cholera morbus.

THE CITY ARMORY.—At a meeting of the Common Council Monday evening, Alderman Graham moved that $15,000 be raised in the taxes of the next year for the purpose of erecting an armory for the use of the military of Brooklyn. Alderman Fowler offered the following preamble and resolutions as an amendment:—

Whereas, the following amendments to the City Charter are now pending before the Legislature:—

Sec. 1.—The Common Council of the city of Brooklyn, by a vote of the majority of the members elected, are hereby authorized to raise and include in the taxes to be imposed during the present year, in and upon the whole city, an amount not to exceed $25,000, for the purpose of building a sufficient armory and drill rooms for the use of the military and for the safe keeping of the State arms in said city, and the said sum shall be laid and imposed by the Supervisors of Kings county upon the said city, as part of the said taxes, and used and expended for the purpose aforesaid.

Sec. 2.—That said Common Council are also authorized by a vote of a majority of the members elected, to sell and dispose of the old building and grounds known as the City Armory, situated on the corner of Henry and Cranberry streets of said city, and to appropriate the proceeds of said sale to the purchase of ground for a site upon which to erect said armory.

And whereas said amendments seek to reduce the requirements of the charter, of a three-fourths and two-thirds vote, necessary to impose a tax, to a bare majority vote, which as a principle is repugnant to American legislation, and as a precedent, for the attainment of a special purpose, fraught with danger:—

Therefore resolved, That his honor the Mayor is hereby requested forthwith to inform our Senators and Representatives, at Albany convened, that the above amendments were not submitted to this Common Council for their consideration, nor were they authorized by this Common Council, and earnestly request their co-operation to defeat the passage of the same. On motion, the whole subject was laid upon the table for future consideration.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A laborer employed in hoisting molasses from the hold of the ship Intrepid, lying at Green's wharf, Furman street, on Monday was struck upon the head by a hog-head, which fell in consequence of the breaking of the tackle. He was instantly killed. His name is not known. His body was taken to New York, where his family reside.

Williamsburg Intelligence.

A MAD DOG KILLED—BUT SHOT WITH A PISTOL.—On Monday morning officer Sheldrake, of the third ward, discovered a mad dog running at large in South Second street between Tenth and Eleventh streets, which he immediately despatched with an iron shovel. The deed had hardly been accomplished, when a boy about eleven years of age, named Augustus Wheeler, came up with a double barrelled loaded pistol, for the purpose of shooting him. While standing looking at the dead animal, with the pistol hanging carelessly by his side, one of the barrels was by some unknown means discharged. The ball entered and passed through his right leg, below the knee, and grazed the top of the officer's boot. The boy was conveyed to the residence of his parents, corner of South First and Ninth streets, where his wound was dressed by a physician. The officer took charge of the pistol.

FIRE—A THOUSAND COW BURNED.—Yesterday afternoon, about 5 o'clock, a fire broke out in a stable owned and occupied by Mr. Jonathan Holbrook, the City Treasurer, situated on the corner of Lorrimer and Johnson streets, and although the flames were early on the ground, and worked fearfully, the building, together with a valuable horse and cow, a large quantity of feed, and several sets of harness, were consumed. Loss to Mr. Holbrook about $900—Partially insured. It is supposed that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

BOARD OF EXPERTS.—At an adjourned meeting of this board Tuesday evening, the committee appointed to ascertain the state of the city finances made a lengthy report, from which it seems that the gross amount of the city indebtedness is $150,916 75, and the amount of property belonging to the city $102,708 50, thus leaving a balance of $48,208 25 in favor of the city.

GRAND LARCENY.—Officer Bennett, of the Second Ward, Tuesday evening arrested a boy named John Quinn, charged with stealing $75 from a corner house kept by a German, in Water street, near North First street. When taken, $40 in gold were found on his person, and $21 in silver secreted in the stable attached to Mr. Dobbin's rope walk. He was locked up.

The Turf.

LOUISIANA RACES.

METAIRIE COURSE, July 16—FIRING.—Purse, mile heats, best three in five, in harness. The following is a summary:—

J. L. Allen names ch. m. Lola Montez	1	2	1	2
J. L. Hall names b. m. Cecilia	2	1	2	1

Time, 2:39—2:41—2:38.

Interesting Sketch of a Herald Newsboy in Philadelphia.

[Correspondence of the Raleigh (N. C.) Standard.]

PHILADELPHIA, May 24, 1853.

In the neighborhood of the Exchange, in this city, there are a variety of shops and other local preparations, for the sale of newspapers and periodicals. There are also congregated about, and radiating from the same focus, something less than a thousand newsboys, a class of little bipeds, made up of elements which in all the world besides would be considered without the scope of either analysis or synthesis. These noisy juveniles drive the same business, but, of course, pay no rent. All mercantile branches have their leading article, whether carried on within doors or in the outer world, and the newspaper business forms no exception. The NEW YORK HERALD holds the same indisputable pre-eminence in that trade that sugar and coffee do in a country grocery store. To have the HERALD, then, is absolutely necessary; to get it first is a great advantage. For some years past, the publisher of this paper has been in the practice of sending it on to the venders in this city, outside the mail, in packages addressed to each, so as to admit of an easy distribution at the depot in Kensington, and without any further interference on the part of the post office. In the outset the boys as well as shopkeepers receive their supplies regularly and at the same time; the point of reception being at the Exchange, and nearly two miles from the depot. The boys, however, became discontented with the course of things, and resolved to take the matter in their own hands. They held a meeting at the corner of some street, of course, and decided to establish forthwith, an "Indian Express." In furtherance of this object, they appointed a committee to survey the route, and in especial reference to the air line doctrine. The result, without going into detail, was that the plan was put into successful operation on the succeeding morning; and as each express boy was prohibited from running more than three squares before allowing himself to be relieved by the next on the line, at least thirty minutes were gained over the shopkeepers and local dealers.

Now, when an individual rents a place in one of our principal thoroughfares, whatever may be his business, he becomes at once an object of interest to the party not of progress. The shopkeepers referred to, took the usual interest under this humane tendency of things, and the morning after the one which recorded the success of the boy, found the enterprise of those friendless little imps characterised as the most reprehensible of outrages. The democratic papers, however, took up the gauntlet, and finally, "conquered a peace;" and it was said, that the Guadalupe Hidalgo adjustment was all on the side of the boys.

Well, now, as the Yankees say, about three weeks after the events referred to, that is, about eighteen months ago, while sitting in my office in Walnut street near the Exchange, for I shall have to be a little personal in this singular record, I saw the door open, and a HERALD boy enter with a large bundle of unfolded papers. Without raising his eyes, or noticing a single object around him, he stepped up to a case which lay near the entrance, and finding it just the right height, and of sufficient width, he laid his papers upon the top, and began at once to straighten them out, and fold them in a manner suitable to the street trade. I watched him until I became quite interested in the sober, taciturn, self-possessed method with which he handled the damp, almost smoking sheets. He was a stumpy little fellow, about eight years old, wore a round brown jacket, and had on his head a leather cap without rim or border, and so old that every particle of coloring matter had long before evaporated, leaving the ground about the shade of his own complexion. Luckily, there was no one about to disturb him, and his job was soon over. When the last paper was folded, he snatched up the bundle, flew out at the door, and the usual cry of "Here's the HERALD!" was heralded forth, in a voice possessing all the scope of Jenny Lind's except its harmony.

I cannot say at this moment that I thought of the HERALD boy again that whole day, nor did I the next morning until his reappearance arrested my attention. His manner, looks and operations, were precisely the same on the second that they had been on the first occasion; and he was also equally lucky in not being disturbed. On the morning of the third day I looked out for him, and was rather gratified to see him enter as before. After this, I gave orders that the HERALD boy should not be interrupted in case of his return, and that the case upon which he was in the habit of folding his papers should be allowed to remain in the same place until withdrawn by its owner.

Sunday now intervened, but the next morning found the HERALD boy beside the case, and at his usual work. The next morning it was the same, and the next, until his visits became so much a part of the clock work of the establishment that they ceased to be regarded by any one but myself. After about four weeks, the case of merchandise was withdrawn, but I had its place supplied by two smaller ones, before the usual hour, and they were adopted by the little laborer without discovering the change.

During the whole of this time, the HERALD boy had kept his own counsel, nor had he, to my knowledge, spoken to a soul in the establishment. He was ignorant of any interest that had been awakened in his favor, and also of the individual to whom he was indebted for the immunities he had been allowed to enjoy.

After three weeks regular use the two boxes were also withdrawn; I then caused the door slides to be placed upon small trussels and located in the same place. These were also adopted. On one occasion a gentleman coming in out of the snow, laid his umbrella upon this convenient place, but I discovered it just in time to have the top slide turned over, so as to present a dry surface.

Now, thousands who read these lines, if they should ever be so honored, especially in the South, will say to themselves, "Why did he not give the little ant of a boy ten dollars and send him home; I would have done so?" Reader, you never were more mistaken in your life. The same hereditary impulse crossed my bosom an hundred times, but it was checked by the wisdom which even I had gleaned from experience. I would rather have contended with that boy for a quarter of a cent; that would have tended to confirm him in his habits of industry and economy, whereas, ten dollars thrown carelessly in his hand would have tended with no less effect to shame him from his humble pursuits. The worst of all virtues is mistaken charity; like the spirit of abolition, to gratify