MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

PROGRESS OF THE MUNICIPAL REVOLUTION.

The enforcement of the Sunday liquor law has produced a wonderful change in the moral condition of the city on Sunday, as exhibited by the returns made to the Chief of Police by the Captains of the several wards. The complaints, as may be seen by the following, have been greatly reduced in number:—

WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY.

That in travelling from Thirty-first street down Eighth avenue to Twenty-ninth street, and up Twenty-ninth street to Sixth avenue, not a policeman was seen by complainant, and that clothing and segar stores were kept open on Sunday.

That Morris street is in a filthy condition, and has not been cleaned for five years past.

That a nuisance in the shape of three dead cats lie in front of No. 303 Sixth street.

That S. Samuels, Abraham Cohen, Philip Sink, M. Felleman, S. Harris, and L. Samuels kept their stores open on Sunday; and that Emmanuel Cohen obstructs the view of the street by hanging his clothing in front of his store.

That there is an intelligence office kept by John Anderson, No. 164 Seventh avenue, without license.

That the ashes in Avenue B, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets, have not been removed for a week past.

That Eighty-sixth street is dangerous to travellers, and is a perfect nuisance.

That — Cox, corner of Canal and Varick streets, kept his liquor shop open all day on Sunday, and that there was a regular rush all day.

That Fourteenth street, between Avenues B and C, has not been cleaned for a year past.

WHAT THE POLICE SAY.

Captain Leonard—The pavement in Ferry street is in a bad condition and wants repairing. The gas lamp on the corner of Fulton and South streets, and one on the corner of Maiden lane and Broadway was not lit.

Captain Hopkins—Greenwich street, from Cortlandt to Liberty, is out of repair, and there is a dangerous hole on the corner of Dey and West streets.

Captain Carpenter—On the returns made by Captain C. there are no complaints; but the following expressive phrase is the best explanation that can be given as to the cause:—"Yesterday was Sunday in this ward."

Captain Ackerman—The walls of Dr. Burchard's church in Thirteenth street, which was lately destroyed by fire, are in a tottering condition, and should be immediately taken care of. There is also a large hole on the corner of Hudson and Barrow streets, a few inches from the railroad, and another on the sidewalk in front of 146 Fourth street. Both are very dangerous. Two gas lamps, one on the corner of Thirteenth street and Ninth avenue, and the other on the corner of Barrow and Washington streets, were not lit.

Captain Porter—Seven lamps only were burning on Third avenue, between Ninety-seventh and 114th streets, at 12 o'clock last night.

The lamps on the Bloomingdale road, between 110th street and Manhattanville, were not lit as usual.

Captain Dilks—Lamp out at Fourteenth street, near Union Hotel; ditto at 72 Bleecker street.

The mud hole in Lafayette place in, front of the Mercantile Library, is very dangerous after dark.

Captain Hart—Lamp not lighted opposite 135 East Eleventh street for more than a week past; also opposite 154 same street. Some of the lamps very dirty.

Captain Speight—The rum holes in this district (the Twenty-first) were, as a general thing, closed on Sunday. Those who did keep open had a spy stationed at the side door, who, on the approach of a policeman, would give warning, when they would refuse to admit any person.

The sewer that was put down in Sixth avenue, between Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth streets, in one mouth gave way, and the pavement has sunk so low that it is impassable for vehicles of any kind.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

The President, Isaac O. Barker, Esq., in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The petition of John H. Talman and others, to discontinue the proceedings for opening Sixty-second street, was referred to the Committee on Roads. A motion to take from the table the nominations of Police Clerks made by the Mayor, was lost.

PROPOSED REPEAL OF THE NEW CITY CHARTER.

Alderman C. H. TUCKER offered the following preamble and resolution:—

Whereas, a proposition has been submitted to the Legislature of this State to materially alter and amend the charter of this city; and whereas, the Board of Councilmen are about to appoint a committee from their Board to confer with the Legislature in relation to amending the charter of this city—therefore be it

Resolved, (if the Board of Councilmen concur,) That a special committee of five be appointed by this Board, to act in conjunction with a similar committee from the Board of Councilmen, to procure the passage of such an act as will best secure to the citizens of this city a charter designed to afford a safe and economical government.

Alderman HOWARD seconded the resolution, and hoped it would be adopted. It was necessary that they should send a deputation to watch the proceedings of the Legislature in reference to this city, or perhaps they might legislate them (the Board) out of office.

Alderman WM. TUCKER opposed the resolution. He thought the Aldermen had enough to do, and they should stay at home and mind their business. He understood the Councilmen had appropriated $500 for their expenses there, but he was opposed to delegations from these bodies going up to the Legislature to carouse and eat and drink at the expense of the city.

Alderman VOORHIS thought the object could be accomplished by the Common Council convening a meeting in this city, and consulting with the Mayor to draw up a charter and submit it to the Legislature.

Alderman LOHR spoke against the resolution. If it was adopted the mover would, of course, be appointed chairman of such committee, and he would use all his efforts in such position to induce the Legislature to repeal the amended charter altogether.

Alderman WAKEMAN contended for the necessity of a delegation to watch the interests of the city in this matter—to see what rights the Legislature propose to take from them, and what rights they intend to confer. He understood that the bill was prepared a month ago, and he was satisfied that it was the intention materially to change the charter of the city, and many of their privileges might be swept away without the slightest consultation with this board. They ought not sit quietly in their seats and see the rights of the city of New York tampered with. He thought the present resolution should be modified, and a committee appointed.

Alderman VOORHIS moved that the matter be referred to the Committee on Laws. It was so referred.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolution was offered by the Alderman of the Third ward, and adopted:—

That the trustees of Columbia College be authorized to grade and pave, and set the curb and gutter of Park place, as extended from Church street to College place, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, provided such work shall be done without delay.

The Alderman of the Fourteenth ward moved the following:—

Resolved, That 5,000 extra copies of the inaugural and the late message of the Mayor be printed for the use of the citizens of this city. Adopted.

The resolution of the Board of Councilmen to erect temporary sheds on the easterly side of Catherine Market, for the oyster and clam dealers, until the building of the new market is completed.

A resolution was passed calling upon the County Clerk to report to the board the number of Commissioners of Deeds in the city whose term has not expired, and the number who were appointed and have not qualified.

TAXING THE CITY RAILROAD CARS.

Alderman KELLY offered a preamble and resolution on the subject of putting a tax on the city railroad cars:—Whereas, it is proper and just that a license fee for running of cars through our streets should be paid, as well as it is considered necessary for the payment of license fees for the running of stages and almost every other vehicle through the streets of the city—therefore,

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on Railroads to examine the subject, and report upon the expediency of establishing a rate of license to be annually paid by the different city railroads.

The resolution was amended, and sent to the Committee on Ordinances.

The Board adjourned to Thursday next.

BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

JAN. 15.—The Board met at 5 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment—D. D. Connover, Esq., president, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

PETITIONS REFERRED.

Of Peter Palm and Christian Geigler, contractors, to be relieved from their contracts for cleaning streets.

Of William Hengler and others, to have a sewer constructed in Bedford street, from Leroy to Carmine street.

To flag Ridge street, from Broome to Rivington street.

Of residents of the Seventeenth ward, to be organized into a fire engine company.

RESOLUTIONS.

That the pump on the northwest corner of Forty-seventh street and Ninth avenue be removed, and that the well be covered over, under the direction of the Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies. Adopted.

To lay crosswalks in Eighth avenue, across Fiftieth street. Referred.

To have sidewalks in Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh streets, between Fourth and Fifth avenues; and also to have sidewalks in Madison avenue, between Twenty-third and Twenty-seventh streets, flagged. Referred.

To have sidewalks on Third avenue flagged, from Forty-fourth street to Sixty-first street.

To increase the salary of Commissioner of Streets and lamps to $2,500. Laid on the table.

Respecting the application to be made to the Legislature to re-organize the New York Fire Department. Laid on the table.

To flag in front of lots Nos. 79 and 81 Horatio street. Referred.

To increase the salaries of Messenger and Assistant Messenger of the Board of Aldermen. Laid on the table.

To have avenue C repaired from Thirteenth to Fifteenth street.

Whereas, the Mayor has ordered the removal of the oyster and clam dealers who occupied the stands at the stable of Catherine market, and, inasmuch as the said persons are thus thrown out of employment during the severest hard times, therefore, be it resolved, that the Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies be directed to erect temporary sheds, on the easterly side of Catherine market, at a sum not to exceed $250, the same to be occupied by the clam and oyster dealers until the building of the new market for the aforesaid dealers is completed. Adopted.

That the Croton Aqueduct Board be requested so to modify their rule in regard to the suspension of the construction of sewers, now under contract, as to allow the contractors to proceed with their work whenever the weather shall be sufficiently warm to warrant the construction of masonry. Adopted.

That the Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies be directed to advertise for proposals, for the purpose of taking down the ruins of the building in the Park, known as the New City Hall. Referred.

VETO OF THE MAYOR IN RELATION TO THE RUINS OF THE NEW CITY HALL.

TO THE HON. THE BOARD OF COUNCILMEN:—

GENTLEMEN—I am forced, by a sense of duty, to return the resolutions in relation to removing the ruins of the old buildings known as the New City Hall, without my signature.

The twelfth section of the amendments to the Charter, passed April 12, 1853, is in these words:—

"All work to be done, and all supplies to be furnished for the Corporation, involving an expenditure of more than $250, shall be by contract, founded on sealed bids or proposals, made in compliance with public notice for the full period of ten days; and all such contracts, when given, shall be given to the lowest bidder, with adequate security. All such bids or proposals shall be opened by the Heads of Departments advertising for them, in the presence of the Comptroller and such of the parties making them as desire to be present."

The language is clear and easily understood. It is positive and adequivocal. You have not the power to direct any Department of the City Government to order labor which shall exceed in cost the sum of $250, without previously receiving proposals from individuals, and making a contract therefor with the lowest bid.

The resolutions now before me for my approval are a peremptory direction to the Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies to employ one hundred and fifty men at a cost of one hundred and fifty dollars per day, to do work for the corporation without any limit as to the amount of money to be so expended, but with the implied authority for him to thus disburse many thousand dollars.

In my opinion that officer cannot overlook the restriction in the section referred to, which explicitly states that "All work to be done which shall involve an expenditure of over two hundred and fifty dollars shall be by contract." I cannot give my aid in requesting him to violate so plain a provision of the organic law under which we are to administer the executive duties of our officers.

Again, there is no appropriation by which to pay these men after the work is performed, and in my recent message I animadvert with much severity upon the practice of permitting disbursing officers to disburse money except upon previous appropriations made upon detailed estimates, and I cannot so soon disregard my own position.

It is unnecessary for me to add that I deeply feel for the poor whom it is intended to benefit by these resolutions. They have my warmest sympathies, but if the charter can be violated for a good object so can it be for a bad object.

The principle which will take down the barriers placed around your legislation, and the conduct of those who execute the laws in this instance will also disregard them in more important and less worthy matters.

In my judgment, the Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies has full power to go on and engage men to do the work, without any directory resolution of this kind, provided that not more than the restricted sum is expended under the same requisition.

It will not be difficult for him to provide ways and means to carry out the benevolent motive, which, no doubt, actuates the Common Council in this proceeding, without any conflict with the charter. The object can be accomplished without any other action upon the part of the Common Council, than making proper provision for the appropriation of the necessary funds which can be done without any disregard of the charter whatever.

I have advised that officer to that effect, and have this day officially directed him to pull down the ruins, and give labor to men at one dollar per day each, keeping within the limits, so far as such requisition may be required. FERNANDO WOOD, Mayor.

January 15, 1854.

The document was laid on the table.

REPORTS REFERRED.

In favor of repairing and making alterations to the house of Engine Co. No. 51.

In favor of confirming contract for building for engine Co. No. 57.

The board then went into committee of the whole, and, having passed through the calendar, rose and reported in favor of ordering several bills to a third reading.

The board then adjourned.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

JAN. 15.—His Honor the Mayor presiding. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

PAPERS REFERRED.

Several petitions for the remission of taxes were received and referred.

BILLS PAID.

The bills of James S. Combs, $111, and Edward Eckeston, $157, for engrossing index for Register's office, were ordered to be paid; also, the bill of Charles W. Fales, $20 75 for similar services; bill of J. C. Bogart for $46, ventilators, &c., in the Superior Court rooms.

CORONER'S BILLS.

The Committee on County Offices reported in favor of paying the bills of the four coroners, $3,743 for the quarter ending 31st December, 1854; $230 for post mortem examinations for the same period. Adopted.

ACCOMMODATION FOR THE SUPREME COURT.

A communication was received from the Justices of the Supreme Court, complaining of the want of accommodation in the rooms at present appropriated for their use. The statute declares, "That the supervisors of the several counties shall provide courts appointed to be held therein, with rooms, attendants, fuel, lights and stationery, suitable and sufficient for the transaction of their business. If the supervisors neglect, the Court may order the sheriff to do so; and the expense incurred by him in carrying the order into effect, when certified by the Court, shall be a county charge." The communication was referred to Committee on Civil Courts.

The Committee on Annual Taxes reported in favor of remitting the taxes of several persons.

The Committee on County Offices reported in favor of granting an additional clerk for the Surrogate's office.

The bill of the Sheriff, for the quarter ending 31st December, 1854, was referred to Committee on County Offices.

Adjourned till Thursday next, at 4 o'clock.

The American Minister at Vienna and the Rev. James Cook Richmond.

It may be remembered that some months ago a letter from the American Chargé at Vienna appeared in *The Times*, in which some intimations were given by Mr. Jackson that he "thought it possible Mr. Richmond might have been over excited" by the well known Austrian mal-treatment. Mr. Jackson had then no personal knowledge of the American clergyman. Afterwards, however, when the Austrian government "peremptorily" refused to allow Mr. Richmond to return from Turkey through the Austrian territory, they made the astounding proposition to the American Minister that, "as they wished to be on good terms with the United States, if the Minister would become personally responsible, and accompany Mr. Richmond through Austria, they might indulge the request."

They were astonished at Mr. Jackson's acceptance of this remarkable proposal; and then again refused to allow Mr. Richmond, even under this diplomatic escort, a passage through Hungary, or even Vienna, the shortest and only convenient route. They traced a roundabout and inconvenient way by the River Save, through Croatia, &c., to Trieste, and then compelled Mr. Richmond to quit Austria at once for some foreign territory. At first he was told he must "leave Trieste for America," but he instantly begged the authorities to notice that that was "not in the bond;" that the Austrian power was limited to its own territory—a trifle which the authorities seemed to have forgotten. Mr. Jackson's earnest request to have Mr. Richmond accompany him, as an experienced traveller, through Venice, Milan, the Tyrol, &c., to Bavaria, was answered by a telegraphic message from Vienna, "Mr. Jackson can go to Venice, Mr. Richmond abroad."

The Minister was sorry for this conclusion, and on his return to Vienna wrote to Mr. Richmond, who is now in England, the following letter, containing his *amende honorable*; and very honorable both to him and to his friends.

Justice to Mr. Richmond induces me to insert Mr. Jackson's letter. It may be here noted also, that the Secretary of the Servian Senate, with whom Mr. Richmond was on intimate terms in Belgrade during the two months immediately succeeding the outrage, voluntarily wrote to his "North American brother" a similar letter, "called forth," as he says, "by my indignation at seeing so ridiculous and unfounded an insinuation as to your soundness in the *Augsburg Allgemine Zeitung*."

VIENNA, Oct. 13, 1854.

MY DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 7th inst. has come to hand. Its predecessors reached Vienna during my absence in England, whither I went originally with the design of returning to the United States. I think it very probable that you and I may have been in London about the same time.

I shall always refer with pleasure to our journey from Belgrade to Trieste. You will pardon me, however, for adding that it furnished likewise a cause of pain. It made me the more regret that the rare intellectual endowments given you by nature, and the extraordinary literary attainments which so delightfully revealed themselves at every step of our progress, giving evidence that the past years had been made to do their full duty—that such advantages as these should be squandered in a profitless war with the Austrian police in Hungary, or upon any similar field of contest.

Will you permit me, then, as a friend, to advise that, with reference to the history of your sojourn upon Austrian territory, you cast aside all recollections which would rouse an emotion of anger, or exhaust a solitary energy? With reference to these, "let bygones be bygones," or, to speak more poetically, "let the dead past bury its dead."

Will you forgive me for having said so much? Perhaps I may have transcended what you may regard as the bounds of propriety. If so, ascribe it to the fact that I take a sincere interest in your fate, and shall feel a peculiar pleasure in hearing that you are in the successful discharge of your new and important duties, and in the bosom of the family so deservedly dear to your heart. Very faithfully yours, H. R. JACKSON.

Rev. J. C. RICHMOND.

Effects of Mormon Polygamy.

[From the London Chronicle, Nov. 29.]

There is a strange compensating power in the supply of news. It really does seem that the word is derived, as has been jocosely suggested, from the cardinal points of the compass, N. E. W. S. Failing the East, we are sure to get something from the West—a lull in the Crimean deserts is made up for by a stiff breeze from the Great Salt Lake. In default of any striking novelty from Balaklava, we fall back upon Utah. And certainly the last Mormon intelligence, which we print elsewhere, has its congenialities with at least one aspect of the season. At Christmas we are more taken with domestic than with bellicose pictures. All the time-honored traditions of the season bring out its domestic aspect. The vignettes which adorn the beliman's verses and the lamplighter's petition—are these canticles yet extinct?—represent the British table with its full accompaniment of olive branches. But the bread finder, as the Germans style him, brandishes his knife opposite a solitary specimen of the matronly partner who dispenses the pudding. How, we should like to know, is the dinner table arranged at Deseret? Here is Mr. —— (we are sorry to say that he has left himself a blank) giving us some insight into his Mormon housekeeping, and lifting up not a little of the veil of his chaste harem. Why does he not present us with the whole of his household experience? He tells us so much that he ought to have told us all.

We certainly applaud the frankness of the correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*. The fraternity to which he belongs is a proselytising one. It already numbers its hundreds of thousands. Recruits or converts at the rate of some thirty thousand souls—or rather bodies—per year leave our own shores alone for the Mormon metropolis. Hitherto, the only bar to their further success has been the rumor that polygamy is one of their institutions. For a long time, the "Apostles" kept this matter very quiet. They veiled it under mysterious names—they spoke of it as a "spiritual marriage," a refined Platonism, a degree to which only the adepts were preferred. Somehow, it was felt that even the rumor of these polygamous practices would not draw adherents. We are, therefore, thankful to Mr. —— for his peculiarly frank admissions on the subject. Here we have a gentleman with three living wives at once—the trio all keeping house together in sororal amity, and all coinciding in the devout wish that their husband should take a fourth. The picture, to be sure, is drawn by the person most interested in making the best of it, and Sarah Ann's experience on the subject would be to the full as edifying. As it is not, however, often that we get a family picture of this extent, we may as well analyze it, especially for the benefit of any enterprising young milkmaid who may be anxious to better herself, and to complete the domestic circle and respective happiness of this patriarch and his three wives.

The husband, we should judge, is between forty and fifty. Some fifteen or sixteen years ago, he married Sarah Ann, who still retains the position of Kadijah. After embracing Mormonism, our friend proceeds in a systematic course of matrimony. His plan, apparently, is an example of Adam Smith's division of labor. He marks out the household duties as a nabob divides the work among the servants. Miss S. he marries for the clothing and educating departments. Next follows a German lady of considerable size, whose avocations are not specified; but, from the contour of her figure, which is described with some minuteness, we presume that she discharges the duties of domestic porter to the establishment. As we have hinted, he is looking out for one "fitted by education and physically adapted to take charge of the dairy." In vision, we see the long procession extend indefinitely. Why not a wife to brew, and a wife to bake, and another to make a pastry cake—a laundry wife, and a kitchen wife, and a drawing-room wife—a spouse for the beehives, and another for the basket, and all for bed and board? The only law which seems to regulate this reverend senior's matrimonial choices is, that the procession grows in size as in quantity. We find, as the special recommendation of No. 3, that she is "larger than either Sarah or Elizabeth." The *fraulein* is like Tennyson's Prince, "blue eyed, and fair in face," with something more than a tendency to *embon point*—or, as the husband informs us, to a certain "bathykolpisiness." From which we conclude that experience in wivedom engenders a taste akin to that of George the Magnificent—the Mormon liking is for "fat, fair, and forty-five" wives. Not only the more the merrier, but the bigger the better. Spouse is estimated by the armful in Deseret.

Here, however, comes out the peculiarity of the Mormon temperament. We find that the wife of two years' standing, and the wife of twenty years' experience, and the bride who has seen only three moons, combine "in anxiety that he should get another." There is no "jealousy among them, no disposition to tear out each other's hair"—they agree in everything, even in a desire to associate a fourth sister with them. The husband range back with a coy, reluctant, austere delay. For his part, he is quite content with a triplicity of wives—if he consents, "it will be entirely out of regard for them." Now, this is contrary to experience. Among Mahometans—we prefer Mr. Lane's testimony to that of Mr. Monckton Milnes on this delicate point—the reverse is the case. Kadijah, we know, had a strong objection to the pretty Egyptian slave-girl. It is of the nature of women to object to these rivalries. Or is it that what a wife cannot endure is bigamy, and that she takes kindly to polygamy? On the gentleman's part, of course, it is on the principle of *divide et impera*. The Czar finds a rival in Austria, but makes his own game out of the German Confederation. Neglect of this obvious rule of policy was the mistake of our eighth Harry. To secure that phantom of his life—domestic happiness—he should have established his six wives *en commandite*, and taken them all at once. Luther's fault was that he did not go far enough. Had he suggested to the elector of Brandenburg a dozen, instead of a brace of spouses, he could have avoided all the troubles of the divorce question. Might it not be suggested to certain British legislators who are very busy about relaxing the marriage laws, that the Mormon precedent, which seems to answer so well, will save a world of trouble?

Still we regret that this father of the flock is not even more explicit. He tells us that Sarah Ann "has the largest share of his affections." Has she the largest share of the loaf and the new bonnets? If so, on what principle is the remainder divided? Do the other claimants share it between them? or does each wife command in turn, like Marlborough and Eugene? If a lady consents to the fractional part of a husband, will she accept an equal division of the spoil in silk dresses? How do they settle in Deseret the matrimonial difficulty of assigning the wings when there is a fowl for dinner? Does gavelkind or borough English obtain among the Mormon wives? It is the wife's privilege to have the last word—does contradiction, like matrimony, multiply three or four-fold at the Great Salt Lake? And, by the way, is there any census of the State of Utah? What a puzzle it would be for Mr. Mann and his staff of enumerators! Why does not the Statistical Society send out a correspondent across the Sierra Nevada? How does nature adapt its laws to a communism—we will not say community—where polygamy is the rule? Are there more girls born where there is this anomalous demand for wives? We can understand a social condition where a widower is unknown, and the Chicago correspondent intimates the existence of bachelors; but, according to the extant laws of population, there ought to be four bachelors for every Benedict. Is this the case? Spinsters, of course, are extinct, and we can understand that there are no illegitimates; but we are puzzled about the proportion of bachelors. We ought to have known more or less on these subjects. The Thelyphthora of the Mormons yet expects its Madan.

The Affair of Petropaulovski.

The following is the Russian official account of the attack by the combined squadron on Petropaulovski:—

"The first intelligence of a rupture between Russia and England and France, reached Rear-Admiral Zavioko, military governor of Kamtschatka, about the middle of July. Measures of defence were therefore taken forthwith, in case of an attack by the enemy's cruisers in the Pacific. The Aurora frigate, and Dwina, armed transport, which were in the harbor, were moored in an advantageous position in the bay. Seven intrenchments were also thrown up, and the civil functionaries and some inhabitants were armed to support the sailors and a small detachment of soldiers. On the 29th of August the English steamer Virago, with an admiral's flag, appeared in the Bay of Avatscha to reconnoitre, and on the 30th she was joined by five other ships, viz: the President, 52 guns; the Pique, 44 guns; the French frigate, the Forse, 60 guns; the Eurydice, 32 guns, and the Obligado, 18 guns. On the 31st the enemy put out a boat to sound, and threw shells. On the 1st of September he took serious measures for attack, neared the coast, and opened a vigorous fire, especially against batteries Nos 1 and 4, (commanded by Lieutenants Gavriloff and Popoff), which replied to the fire of 80 guns with eight only. Lieutenant Gavriloff having been wounded, sub Lieutenant Gonbareff took the command of battery No. 1. The greater part of the men having been quickly put *hors de combat*, and the guns dismounted, the garrison retired to battery No. 2. Thereupon the enemy landed 600 men opposite the battery No. 4 in which Lieutenant Popoff had only three guns and 29 men. Popoff spiked his guns and retired upon battery No. 2. But a detachment of our sailors assembled upon this point, seeing that there was hesitation in the ranks of the enemy, rushed in advance and overthrew the French, who retreated to the shore in great disorder. During this time, the enemy's steamer twice laid itself opposite the Aurora and began to throw shells, but was each time obliged to retire by the well directed fire of our frigate. Thereupon the enemy's whole fire was concentrated on battery No. 2, commanded by Lieut. Prince Maksutoff. Eleven Russian guns, directed by him with the same coolness as at ordinary practice, resisted the fire of eighty cannon of the enemy for more than eleven hours. Some boats then approached battery No. 3, but one was sunk and the others fled. Night alone put an end to the combat. The damage suffered by the enemy must be considerable, for he required three days to repair it. During this time we also repaired our batteries. On the 5th the combat was renewed. The steamer towed the enemy's frigates nearer shore, opposite the battery No. 3, commanded by Lieut. Prince Maksutoff, and No. 7, commanded by Capt. Coraloff, both of the navy. Both commanders were soon wounded, the guns dismounted, and the carriages buried in the earth. The enemy then landed again with 650 men, who advanced against battery No. 6, on the Nicholosky hill, north of the town. Twice the enemy advanced, but were driven back with grape.

Several detachments of sailors under Lieutenant Arkudinoff and other officers of the navy, amounting in all to 347 men, made a resolute charge with the bayonet. The enemy did not sustain the attack. In spite of the bravery of their officers, our adversaries retired in disorder, towards the ravines, throwing away their arms and one flag.

Some of the enemy were precipitated from a steep mountain and were killed, and the rest succeeded in getting to their boats under the fire of our musketry. On the 6th and 7th the enemy buried their killed in Tarrinskai Bay, and repaired damage, and on the 8th put to sea. Besides the killed and wounded on board the enemy's ships, he lost 300. We found among the dead four officers, and made four prisoners. We have 37 killed, and three officers and 75 men wounded; in all, 115 *hors de combat*. Among the officers, Prince Maksutoff is mortally wounded. The damage done to our ships is trifling. In the town the fish magazine is burnt, and thirteen houses and buildings injured with shot.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONEY MARKET.

MONDAY, Jan. 15—6 P. M.

The inflation in fancy stocks still continues with full force. It does not slack up as prices advance, but appears to be going on with as much energy as at any time since the movement commenced. At the first board to-day New York Central Bonds improved ¼ per cent; Nicaragua Transit, ½; Cumberland Coal Company, 1; New York Central Railroad, 1; Erie Railroad, ¾; Harlem, ¾; Reading Railroad, ½; Illinois Central Railroad, 1½; Cleveland and Toledo Railroad, 1. Michigan Southern Railroad fell off 1 per cent, and Illinois Central Bonds, ½. Erie Railroad opened at 47, but closed at 46¾. The transactions amounted to about three thousand shares. Cumberland Coal has been one of the most active fancies on the list since the present speculative excitement commenced. Prices have moved gradually up, and closed this morning at 33 per cent, a higher point than has been known for many months. The coal business of the company during the past year has been profitable. At present very little is doing. Harlem has steadily advanced from 24 per cent, the lowest point. A sale was made this morning at 34, buyer sixty days. We understand that the company's report does not show a very flattering state of things. The Schuyler management has entailed upon the company difficulties which cannot be so easily removed. It has been shown that the dividends paid were not earned. There was a deficiency of about twenty thousand dollars per annum, in the dividend account, which was so much money added to the debt, without value received. The actual losses to the company directly through the frauds of Schuyler and Kyle, were not so large but that the stoppage of two or three dividends, had these dividends been really earned, would have made up the amount, but the dividends not having been earned, cuts off that resource, and the company find an increase of debt inevitable. The fact that the stockholders can have no expectation of a dividend for years, must again concentrate the stock in the hands of speculators, and it may again become as precarious a fancy as it ever has been. The management of the road is in good hands, and the strictest economy is exercised in all its departments. If the stockholders manage to keep brokers out of the board of direction, the stock may gradually improve in market value, notwithstanding the operations at the Exchange and in Wall street. The advance in Hudson River stock is one of the most unaccountable things of the day. Last year the company did not pay its interest and running expenses, and nothing better can be expected for years. New York Central Railroad is no active at current rates. After the books open the bears will probably put it out more freely.

The transactions at the Assistant Treasurer's office to day, were as follows:—

Received	$152,399 44
Paid	60,285 32
Balance	2,874,390 01
Paid for Assay Office	36,870 02

After the adjournment of the board the following sales of stocks and bonds were made at auction:—

$5000 Cleveland & Pittsburg RR. Inc., int. added		47
6000 do. do. do.	45¾ a 50¼	
10000 Cleveland & Toledo RR. Incomes,	66¾ a 67	
2000 Chicago & Miss. RR. 2d mortgage,	— a 57¼	
10 shs Hanover Bank		83
20 St. Nicholas Fire Insurance Co.		40
150 Commercial Insurance Co.		83½
20 Excelsior Fire Insurance Co.		65½
20 Reliance Mutual Insurance Co.		37½
50 Parker Vein Coal Co.		10c.
190 St. Marks Insurance Co.		60
25 Winnifrede Coal Company of Virginia		13
50 Florence & Keyport Land Company		2
1000 do. do. Joint do.		32c.
4000 Aberdeen Gold Mining Co. of N. Carolina		10c.
500 Dorn Mining Co., (per share of $5)		10c.

At the second board the market was a little heavy. Illinois Central Bonds declined 1 per cent Erie Bonds, 1875, ¾; Nicaragua Transit, ½; Canton Company, ¼; Cumberland Coal, ¾; New York Central Railroad, ½; Erie Railroad, ¼; Harlem, ½; Hudson Railroad, ¾; Cleveland and Toledo Railroad, ½. Buyer's option are the terms upon which the bulk of stock operations are now made, and there appeared to be sellers enough to supply any demand. Many who buy for cash turn right round and sell out buyer's option. The present speculation is all in Wall street. If outsiders had the disposition to touch the fancies, they have not the means, and are not likely to have, for a long time. There is no hope for the brokers outside of Wall street. The new bonds of the Erie Company sold this afternoon at 78¼ per cent, being 1¼ per cent. below the price paid on subscription.

The steamer Northern Light, at this port from Nicaragua, brings one week later intelligence from California and $533,000 in gold. The advices are not important. Trade was not active, but money was in demand at extreme rates of interest. From the mining districts the accounts continue favorable for the season. There was a great want of rain for mining purposes.

We learn that all drafts upon Page, Bacon & Co, of San Francisco, will be paid at the Bank of America. Mr. David Hoadley, president of the Panama Railroad Company, has received the consignement of gold by the steamship Northern Light, amounting to $328,000, and will pay any draft drawn against it. Messrs. Page, Bacon & Co. have withdrawn their account from Duncan, Sherman & Co., and will probably establish a branch of their house in Wall street. When the news of the failure of Page & Bacon, of St. Louis, reaches San Francisco, there will probably be a run upon the house of Page, Bacon & Co. of that city; but we are informed that every demand will be promptly paid upon presentation. The excitement must, therefore, soon subside, and the credit of the house, without doubt, be sustained.

The Bank Commissioners of New Jersey advocate the general banking law, and recommend—1st, that no bank shall receive its notes except on first certifying that its stock is paid in; 2d, not to be allowed to organize except $20,000 worth of securities are deposited; 3d, nor unless a regular banking house in a proper place has been provided; 4th, that the directors shall be residents of the State, a majority of the place where the bank is located, and all bona fide stockholders; 5th, lists of such directors to be published in Trenton and Newark; 6th, statements to be made to the Bank Commissioners, who shall transmit them to the Legislature within twenty days after the opening of the session; 7th, notice to be required of stockholders that they are bona fide owners; 8th, Bank Commissioners to approve of locations. They also recommend the prohibition of circulating notes of less than five dollars.

The Reading Railroad Company announce their dividends as follows:—On the preferred shares, 7 per cent in cash, and 3 per cent in common stock; and 10 per cent in common stock on common stock, payable on the 1st of February. How the dividends on the fractions of ten shares will be paid we presume will be announced on the opening of the transfer books on the 15th inst.

The Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad Company have declared a semi-annual dividend of four per cent from the profits of the company. The stockholders will also receive two per cent from the Delaware and Raritan Canal Company and the Camden and Amboy Railroad and Transportation Company, for their interest in the said companies. The Delaware and Raritan Canal and Camden and Amboy Railroad and Transportation companies have declared a semi-annual dividend of six per cent.

The Chicago *Press* of the 11th inst. says:—

David Leavitt, Esq., of New York; George Smith, Esq., and Hon. Wm. B. Ogden, left for Springfield yesterday morning. We learn that some important proposals are to be made with reference to the payment of the State interest. It is understood that Mr. Leavitt will find ways and means to furnish the money if the Legislature are prepared to meet his views.

The annexed statement exhibits the average daily condition of the leading departments of the banks of this city, for the week preceding Saturday morning, Jan. 13, 1855:—

NEW YORK CITY BANKS.

	Discounts.	Specie.	Circulation.	Deposits.
New York	$3,085,583	648,590	242,584	2,643,189
Manhattan	4,041,769	820,600	297,755	3,086,128
Merchants'	3,243,867	1,760,901	181,141	4,186,634
Mechanics'	3,895,529	1,311,988	333,917	4,183,023
Union	2,497,719	452,736	158,352	2,268,007
America	3,897,752	1,012,265	62,119	3,871,963
Phenix	2,157,474	445,328	130,810	1,872,088
City	1,568,626	218,885	74,692	1,153,713
North River	966,851	92,731	170,662	808,132
Tradesmen's	1,266,659	206,789	193,561	697,195
Fulton	1,354,124	186,783	128,348	1,079,451
Chemical	1,150,283	417,784	273,550	1,101,564
Merchants' Ex.	2,429,897	132,541	116,234	1,657,976
National	1,451,429	180,559	150,678	809,713
Butchers'	1,227,356	148,165	29,791	771,385
Mechs. & Trad'rs	571,083	65,016	89,855	394,385
Greenwich	512,205	51,682	156,958	379,161
Leather	1,620,645	326,172	164,766	1,280,233
Seventh Ward	996,816	122,933	144,411	533,415
State	3,680,275	783,595	512,127	2,021,277
Am. Exchange	5,172,897	894,977	254,106	4,329,983
Association	983,440	102,411	170,613	682,053
Commerce	8,466,869	950,681	2,270	5,218,140
Bowery	830,306	69,870	165,727	602,731
Broadway	1,168,854	162,777	193,470	1,015,783
Ocean	1,049,073	122,390	66,694	498,109
Mercantile	1,293,140	353,912	83,914	1,481,827
Pacific	679,240	73,518	93,356	418,755
Republic	2,549,574	569,888	80,616	2,496,633
Chatham	468,205	79,771	68,455	249,441
People's	710,157	67,534	95,441	465,384
North America	1,507,496	259,086	83,724	1,320,423
Hanover	1,200,381	57,487	92,870	582,729
Irving	429,143	64,702	95,679	348,531
Metropolitan	3,206,873	988,010	92,495	3,996,478
Citizens'	586,198	99,127	139,255	449,338
Grocers'	559,857	75,399	73,857	458,074
Nassau	788,161	84,181	110,921	653,892
East River	452,043	49,393	77,657	185,644
Market	969,294	142,426	110,499	722,399
St. Nicholas	678,040	28,938	68,104	503,232
Shoe and Leather	701,578	46,045	99,744	317,878
Corn Exchange	1,308,609	154,127	85,391	1,056,524
Continental	2,439,250	381,817	63,317	1,690,628
Commonwealth	1,148,800	102,029	81,787	906,276
Oriental	457,176	53,249	82,020	274,227
Marine	552,707	49,413	89,231	343,657
Atlantic	444,522	59,299	76,874	168,085
Island City