THE COMMERCIAL CRISIS.

MEETING OF THE HARDWARE TRADE.

PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE TIME OF CREDITS.

The following invitation requesting the attendance of the members of the hardware trade brought together a large representation of those engaged in that business yesterday afternoon in the Astor House:—

NEW YORK, Oct. 20, 1857.

You are requested to attend a general meeting of the hardware trade, to be held at the Astor House on Saturday next, the 24th, at 3 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of considering the time of credits, as at present allowed, and other subjects connected with the present embarrassments of trade. The meeting is called by order of the Executive Committee of the Hardware Dealers Board of Trade.

EDWARD CORNING, President.

J. DAVENPORT, Secretary.

There were about seventy members of the trade present, and although the meeting was merely preliminary, the greatest interest was manifested in its proceedings. Mr. E. Corning presided, and Mr. J. Davenport officiated as secretary.

The PRESIDENT, in calling the meeting to order, said that the object was the appointment of a committee which should report on some future day in regard to an alteration in the time of credits.

Mr. QUINCY then addressed the meeting on the subject of banks and the system of long credits, as follows:—

The laws of nature are the laws of God, and they are wise and always successful. These laws operate as positively in the mental as in the physical world—as much in the laws of trade as in the planetary system; and the man who attempts to control the currents of the ocean, or to reverse the course of the Hudson river, will attempt a no more difficult task than to work contrary to the natural laws of credit. Man's capacity does not admit of his fully comprehending the laws of mind or matter, nor all the movements of the productions of the earth, their quantity, their location, the supply and demand.

The political economy of Europe and America has been a subject of research for the most powerful minds, and their results have been as wide as the poles; as wide as general prosperity and the adversity of the present. Beyond a given depth the human mind is positively incapable of grasping it, and what more feeling demonstration of this fact than the financial condition of our country at the present times. This state of disaster is not a new thing; but periodically, ever since we have been a country, have such seasons of disaster and commercial distress been known.

And whilst human nature remains as it is such times ever will occur, for it is human nature rather to learn from our own experience than from the experience of others.

It is also natural to make a stalking horse of others for our own faults, and in the present crisis it would be well if we could lay our troubles to the banks, to the press or any other source than ourselves. But there is another view to be taken of the banks and their officers; they are men, like ourselves, and liable to err. They are stockholders, and merchants like ourselves. If the stockholders do not look at the interests of the banks, who will look to them?

Banks are not created entirely for the merchants, but the stockholders are known to have some interest in them, and there is no more reason why they should be so self sacrificing as to loose all their capital to accommodate their customers, than there is that the merchant should loose all to accommodate his customers. The merchant has had to give extensions to his customers, and the banks have done the same. If the merchant has not means to give required extensions and pay his own obligations, he must suspend or fail. The position of the banks is the same. Why should we expect more of the man as a stockholder or officer in a bank, than in his own individual business? We shall find no difference. As a merchant he has expanded beyond what the laws of trade allows, and to avoid being dishonored calls upon his bank to accommodate his necessities, and injudiciously doing this the bank breaks. I say injudiciously, yet where does the wisdom lay to say this is injudicious? It may have been a matter of discussion with the bank itself, and its action condemned by a large minority, yet the majority rules and the action is taken; and we are driven to the conclusion that man's wisdom is not adequate to control the laws of credit except within a very limited sphere, and this is further proved by the fearful statistics of the past in mercantile life, that has stated the successful merchants who die leaving fortunes, without ever having been protested, as being from three to five per cent only of those who engage in business.

Whilst then we charge our errors upon the banks we should have charity to suppose at the time they did the best they could, for it was no more their interest than that of the merchant to suspend and throw their assets in such ruinous confusion. Every merchant knows that he who relies upon bank discounts must be liable to be least accommodated when he wants the money most; for when the money market is stringent, they who have kept large balances, and used the banks the least, are compelled to call for discounts, by the law of right they should be first served. The very necessities of the merchants create the necessities of the banks. The whole system of long credits is radically wrong. By this system the banks become an insuperable necessity, and this day tells you there is no safety for merchants with hundreds of thousands of surplus to rely on banks; for you will trust to a broken reed, that in the day of necessity will run you through. Banks are valuable, indispensably valuable auxiliaries to trade; they are useful as an incidental reliance, and they will aid and profit who thus use them, but the fearful disasters of the past arise from a wrong appreciation of the use of banks and a blind use of the system of credits. Various attempts have been made to shorten credits in this country, but the result has been only partial and temporary. It should be the result of individual conviction, and a determination to sell at less profits than others who sell on longer time; and expenses and other things being equal, the greater success in a series of years will follow short credits. Combinations and agreements on such subjects are undesirable and are often evaded, although mutual unwritten understandings may be desirable. If our system of credits could be reduced one-third the position of our merchants and of the banks would be more pleasant and profitable than we have for years seen them.

The Scripture doctrine is—"Pay thy debts, owe no man anything;" but our long credit system too often practically results—"Owing thy debts, and pay no man anything." It has been said that the press is at fault in alarming the public mind and destroying confidence. We have reason to thank Heaven we have a free press, and that the voice of public opinion is not hushed by the dictator's muzzle. The voice of the press has been various—sometimes admonitory, advisory and exhorting to economy in imports—and at other times has been charged with subserviency and speculative designs. There may have been those who had selfish ends to accomplish; but as a whole they have spoken loudly of the extravagances in dress, in living, in superstructures, and in all that enervates and weakens the financial condition of the country. Long since the press proclaimed from its own editors and from letters of distinguished civilians that the last alteration of the tariff would produce results such as we now witness.

It is not the press alone, nor the banks alone, nor the system of credits alone, that occasions this meeting to-day; but is the want of independent thought on all these subjects, and the use of ordinary common sense. Credit and business, as taught us by the law of nature, is simple and beautiful; but as taught by the avariciousness of man, is complicated and abominable. It is not through resolutions and long-drawn theories and arguments that we are to be lifted from this slough of despond, but it is by a due economy and activity, by a spirit of forbearance and help, and through hard work and hardware we will hope that the good time will not be long coming.

Mr. FRANCIS MANY offered a resolution that a committee of five gentlemen be appointed to prepare resolutions expressive of the sentiments of the trade upon short credits.

Mr. A. R. WETMORE read the following letter, which he had received from a firm in Philadelphia, in regard to the credit system pursued by the trade.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct., 1857.

GENTLEMEN—We have had for some time under consideration the propriety of reducing business to a credit of four months. The advantages of such a system are so manifest that we happened all will be ready to fall into the plan. With the view of drawing out the sentiments of the trade on the subject, we have addressed letters to two or three houses in New York, Boston and Baltimore. Hoping to have your views, we remain, &c.

To which Mr. WETMORE made the following reply:

GENTLEMEN—We have long felt not only the inconvenience, but the necessity, of reducing the time on which goods are sold on credit if business men would avoid embarrassments. In the conducting of our business we have never exceeded six months, and as far as practicable have made an endeavor to pay cash by a discount of five per cent. We hope there may be concert of action among the leading business men of our large cities, in correcting this matter, so as certain now, that our banks may return at an early day to specie payments.

After reading the foregoing letters Mr. Wetmore said that in a business of forty years he never sold a single bill of goods over six months, and in stating this he added, I speak particularly of the smaller establishments, while to the larger ones we have sold on six months—that is, to our customers throughout the country.

Mr. VAN BRUNT was of the opinion that as this was a subject in which such a magnitude of interests was involved, not only as regards this city but the trade of other cities, it was impossible to mature any settled plan of action at the present meeting. A longer delay was necessary to allow for more complete expression of the opinions of the trade. I see, said he, connected with this subject issues that will continue for a long time to come. I, for one, he continued, am in favor of this question going into the hands of the committee, so that it shall be most faithfully and diligently discussed, and so that not only resolutions will be introduced on the subject, but in reference to other matters of interest to the trade, and bearing upon the present financial embarrassments. I am pleased to see and know that other cities as well as our own are canvassing this question. The question of credits I do not desire at all to discuss, but I do desire that this question shall go into the hands of an intelligent committee, and that efforts be made to secure the attendance of a member from every house in the city. I know we have a large meeting now, perhaps as large as we can get, but it seems to me the business before us is too important to be disposed of hastily.

The resolution in regard to the appointment of a committee was now put to the meeting and adopted, the power being given to the President to appoint.

Mr. H. LIVINGSTON hoped that the committee would carefully and favorably consider the proposition to alter the time of credits from six to four months.

The PRESIDENT desired to make a few remarks at this stage of the proceedings. He said:—In relation to the subject that has called us together it must be very clear that this matter should have careful consideration and matured deliberation. It involves important interests—a variety of interests. We have here this afternoon representatives from abroad who are supplying us with goods; we have also a large representation here of gentlemen who are jobbing merchants, and it must be confessed that some of us have made jobs by giving very long credit. (Laughter.) But the difficulty is not so much in the time we give them as in the time they take by our tacit consent, and I think we are to blame rather than the purchasers. I venture to say you will bear me out in the remark that more than half of our customers fail to pay upon the day they promise, and fail to give us notes when they purchase our goods. Here is where the shoe pinches, not about the nominal time that is given. It would be better for every merchant to fix nine months as the limit than six months, as it is at present. Four months is the time of English credit, but they don't always get it because we don't make our customers pay at this. There's not a single agent of an English house but would get his pay promptly in four months if the jobbing merchants held their customers to six months credit, but unfortunately it is not so. Now, unless we act promptly upon these resolutions we should not pass them. Allusion has been made to the action of our banks, but I say let by-gones be by-gones. To use the language of Scripture—"Leave the things that are behind and go forward." Our object is to mend for the future. The community want courage infused into them. It is a fact that a paralysis has taken hold of the business community. There is a want of courage and enterprise. I will not say how it was brought about; but it exists, and has paralyzed almost every branch of trade and commerce. If we can't infuse a spirit of enterprise into the business community, we will be a nation of bankrupts. We want a confidence between man and man and between institutions, and if we don't have it we shall fail. What will our passing resolutions here this evening do, if we don't take some effective action on the subject that has called us together? If we decide on selling at four months' credit only, who will we sell to? To no one. Where are our customers? All gone, for a panic has stricken the business community; they will buy nothing till they find that confidence has revived among the banks. I say the great difficulty exists in the fact that we don't act in concert in relation to enforcing credit in payment of goods. Why is every man afraid of his neighbor? We meet a man whom we have known for twenty-five or thirty years, and the moment the matter of credits is mentioned we shrink back from each other. There were two gentlemen who met in Wall street the other day who were about to exchange securities, and it is a fact that they were afraid to trust each other with their checks, and yet these were gentlemen who had known and done business with each other for twenty years. They looked at one another, and one said, "my dear fellow, I am ashamed," and the other said, "I am ashamed—take the check." Now, this little incident illustrates the feeling throughout the country. I hope that at the next meeting there will be a larger number, and that when we meet again we shall meet as friends, that we shall give each other the right hand of fellowship, and that when we make promises we shall fulfil them to the extent of our ability.

The President at the close of his remarks announced the following as the names of the committee whom he had appointed to serve on the committee:—Messrs. C. Norton, Chas. Bliven, A. Ward, ——Bruff, Chas. Vandervoort, E. Corning.

A motion was adopted authorizing the foregoing committee to appoint members to visit Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston and other cities for the purpose of ascertaining the views of the trade on the subject of credits.

The meeting then adjourned to Wednesday afternoon, to meet at the same place.

SERMON ON THE PANIC.

REV. CHARLES E. HARRIS ON THE DUTY OF THE CHURCH IN THE CRISIS.

Yesterday morning the Rev. Charles E. Harris, pastor of John street Methodist Episcopal church, again discoursed on the financial pressure. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the congregation was large, the deserved reputation of the speaker, as one of our most eloquent pulpit orators, always calling together a full house. His subject was—"The Christian view of men's duties in the financial crisis." His text was taken from the 29th verse of the 10th chapter of Luke: "Who is my neighbor?" The occasion of the delivery of these words was the temptation of Jesus by a young lawyer, who gave the youth to understand that his neighbor did not live in the upper story of his house nor at the end of his street, but that the world was his neighborhood. The Bible inculcated the purest system of morality, and its moral requisitions were comprehended in two principles—Love to God, and love to man. They diverged into numerous ramifications, and furnished a moral code for the whole intelligent creation, and laid the foundation of the highest attainments in virtue and religion. Were they universally obeyed, the innocence of the golden age would be revived, and the earth blossom with undying verdure of peace and good will. If the love of God reigned supreme in the heart, idolatry would be unknown; neither Juggernaut in India, nor conscription in England; neither Mahomet in Turkey, nor Pius in Rome; neither Bohl in China, nor Mammon in America. There would be no unholy attributing to a benignant God a thousand ills and mishaps, the results of human recklessness and carelessness; no murmurings and repinings under the afflictants of Divine providence. If every moral intelligence loved his neighbor as himself, there would be no rivalries and antipathies between nations, and therefore no wars; no treacherous friendships, nor fraud in commercial transactions; no murders, thefts, or arson, and the whole calendar of guilt would be unknown. If men loved their neighbors as themselves, the speaker remarked that we could almost dispense with the services of his Honor the Mayor; and our city, instead of being too often the grave of virtue, intelligence and manliness, would become the depository of loveliness and the mirror of moral beauty, reflecting its virtue to the extremest part of our vast dominions. The reverend gentleman dwelt at length upon the advantages which would accrue to nations were the principle of universal brotherhood recognized and practised. He deprecated the feeling of pride which a large number of Americans engendered toward foreigners. They show a line of demarcation until a election time, when they exhibited strong friendship. There never was such an amount of false friendship and rascality manifested as at that time. In these hard times, the question of the text, "Who is my neighbor?" came home to the Christian church and demanded its answer. The merchant's neighbor was his bookkeepers, clerks and porters. If he stopped from them the avenues of bread, he cut off existence from them. The Christian storekeeper's neighbor was the poor, who had a great many hungry stomachs to fill and little money to do it with. They asked them not to raise the price of their provisions, but to bring them down. The mechanic's neighbor was he who worked by his muscle and earned his bread by the sweat of his brow. The speaker said it was not in consonance with the teachings and spirit of Christ to curtail expenses for employment, because we could not make as much money one year as another. We should sacrifice our luxuries in order to feed the poor. The American churches should continue to support their missionaries in foreign lands. The reverend gentleman concluded by giving wholesome advice to the suffering poor and the laboring classes, and recited the subjoined verses with considerable effect:—

All's for the best—be sanguine and cheerful—
Trouble and sorrow are friends in disguise.
Nothing but folly goes fathless and fearful—
Courage for ever is happy and wise.
All's for the best—if a man would but know it;
Providence wishes us all to be blest.
This is no dream of the pundit or poet—
Heaven is gracious, and all's for the best.
All's for the best—be a man but confiding;
Providence tenderly governs the root;
And the frail bark of his creature is guiding,
Wisely and warily, all for the best.
All's for the best—then fling away terrors,
Meet all your fears and your foes in the van;
And in the midst of your dangers or errors
Trust like a child, while you strive like a man.
All's for the best. Unbiased, unbounded,
Providence reigns from the east to the west.
So, born by wisdom and mercy surrounded,
Hope and be happy, for all's for the best.

PANIC KNOCKING DOWN THE NIGGER.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE NORTHERN DISUNION CONVENTION INDEFINITELY.

[From the National Anti Slavery Standard, Oct. 24.]

POSTPONED.

In consequence of the great financial revulsion, which has swept over the land like a tornado, reducing even the wealthy to circumstances of deep embarrassment and plunging the poor into a lower deep of poverty, the Committee of Arrangements for the Northern Disunion Convention, appointed to be held at Cleveland on Wednesday and Thursday next, have come reluctantly to the determination to postpone the said Convention to a time hereafter to be fixed—probably until next Spring. Up to a very recent period the prospect of a large and influential Convention, in response to the call so numerously signed, was most hopeful; but it is now manifest that, if held at all, it must necessarily be a merely local body, with few representatives from other States than Ohio. In these circumstances the committee have concluded that it is not best now to attempt to hold such a Convention as the call contemplates, but at the same time to leave the friends of the cause in Northern Ohio, who will no doubt be greatly disappointed by this announcement, to judge for themselves whether it is best for them to hold a local meeting at the time appointed.

We need not say how deeply we regret the calamities which have seemed to compel the committee to this painful step; but we would not have our readers suppose for a moment that the labor of preparing for the Convention has, on this account, been lost. Far from it. The discussion evoked by the call more than compensates for the labor, great as it has been. Not in vain have seven thousand citizens of the free States lifted up their united voice against the Athletic idolatry which exalts the blood stained Union above all that is called God or worshipped as divine. The slaveholders have recognized in that voice a prophecy of the doom that awaits their hellish system, while the true friends of liberty have been cheered and strengthened thereby.

NEW YORK.

ONTARIO BANK, UTICA

It will be seen by the following letter from the receiver of the above named institution to one of our citizens, that the great majority of bill holders do not stand much of a chance to realise very soon, if at all. It looks rather dubious all around:—

RECEIVER'S OFFICE, ONTARIO BANK, (ASS'N.)
UTICA, Oct. 21, 1857.

JAMES ANDERSON, Esq., Albany:—Dear Sir—Mr. Johnson has handed to me your letter of the 19th inst. I cannot now redeem the notes of the late Ontario Bank. I mean those which were issued prior to the 1st of January, 1855, and payable at Canandaigua or at the branch here; and I regret to be obliged to add that the condition of the affairs of the bank is such that I cannot express any satisfactory opinion as to the ultimate payment of the notes from the assets in my hands. A large amount is in litigation, and of course I cannot say what the result will be. I am not at liberty to give the holders of the bills of the old bank a preference over other creditors. They must, as I am advised, be paid in the course of dividends.

MASSACHUSETTS.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE BOSTON BANKS.

The undersigned, inhabitants of the city of Boston, Mass., do hereby express to the merchants, traders, farmers, and mechanics throughout the country their firm and sincere belief that the Boston banks mentioned in the annexed schedule are established on a substantial basis, are prudently managed, and perfectly solvent; that the bills of said banks are now received by the inhabitants of this city and of all New England with the same confidence as before the suspension of specie payments; and that they deserve to be received with this confidence by the whole country:—

Atlantic Bank,	Atlas Bank,
Bank of Commerce,	Bank of North America,
Blackstone Bank,	Boston Bank,
Boylston Bank,	Broadway Bank,
City Bank,	Columbian Bank,
Eagle Bank,	Eliot Bank,
Exchange Bank,	Faneuil Hall Bank,
Freeman's Bank,	Globe Bank,
Granite Bank,	Hamilton Bank,
Howard Banking Co.,	Market Bank,
Massachusetts Bank,	Maverick Bank,
Mechanics' Bank,	Merchants' Bank,
National Bank,	New England Bank,
North Bank,	Shawmut Bank,
Shoe & Leath. Dealers' Bk.,	Suffolk Bank,
Traders' Bank,	State Bank,
Union Bank,	Tremont Bank,
Webster Bank,	Washington Bank.

WILLIAM APPLETON,
J. W. BROOKS, Pres. M. C. R. R.,
WILLIAM STURGIS,
JNO. E. THAYER & BRO.,
NATHAN APPLETON,
JOHN BRYANT,
DAVID SEARS,
RUFUS CHOATE,
EDWARD EVERETT,
ROBT. C. WINTHROP.

We, the undersigned, merchants in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, cheerfully join in the above expression of opinion with regard to the Boston banks.

We also add the expression of our sincere belief that all the New England banks (except those reported in the *Bank Note Reporter and Counterfeit Detector* as not being received at the Suffolk Bank in Boston), are perfectly solvent, and we will receive the bills of these banks at par, as readily as we do those of the Boston banks.

Then follows the signatures of about one hundred and twenty of the principal business firms of Boston.

MISSOURI.

ANOTHER CURRENCY MEETING IN ST. LOUIS.

[From the St. Louis Democrat, Oct. 21.]

At the appointed hour yesterday morning a large number of merchants were congregated at the Exchange to consider the resolution which was published in the morning papers of yesterday, and which was as follows:—

Whereas the banking institutions of the principal cities of the Union with which we are in commercial relations have suspended specie payments; and, whereas, it is necessary that some action should be taken by the community of St. Louis to relieve the pressure now existing here, be it

Resolved, by the members of the Chamber of Commerce, That we will receive the notes of all solvent banks of other States, in payment of all goods and merchandize purchased from us, and in payment of all debts contracted after this date.

The meeting having been called to order and the resolution read, the following substitute was offered by Mr. Cranwill:—

Whereas, in consequence of a general suspension of specie payments by the banks of the principal cities of the Union and throughout the country generally, we deem it inexpedient and seriously detrimental to the best interests of the trade of the city of St. Louis for us longer to attempt to make coin the basis of our circulation; medium; that while our collections in all parts of the country are made in bank paper, known as currency, and we are forced to meet our notes in specie, a fair reciprocity does not exist; that, whilst we are obliged to receive from our country customers the paper of banks known as currency, and suffer a discount of ten or fifteen per cent by converting it into specie to meet our obligations, the result is ruinous, and such a state of things should not longer be continued if it can possibly be avoided—an attempt at the present time to enforce specie payments would end in ruin, which would involve not only the merchants, but the mechanics and laboring classes of our citizens—therefore,

Resolved, That the trade and commerce of St. Louis be conducted on a currency basis until such time as a general resumption of specie payment takes place by the banks of the principal cities of the Union; and that specie be defined, for the present, to mean bank notes of all banks the issue of which is secured by State bonds; also notes of the States of Missouri (branch notes), Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Louisiana, and of the cities of Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Baltimore, and of all the New England states, such as are received at the Suffolk Bank, Boston, and at the Clearing House, New York.

Resolved, That we shall receive such currency at par, in payment of all notes and debts due us, and we shall not regard any one as being under protest who shall offer to pay his obligations when due, in the same kind of funds, unless due to our State banks.

Resolved, That merchants whose arrangements are not otherwise made be invited to deposit with the State savings and other institutions of this city, that they may be enabled to commence banking operations on the currency basis, discounting, buying and selling exchange, affording such relief as may be safe and prudent under all circumstances.

Resolved, That the merchants sign these resolutions, and that the newspapers of our city be requested to publish them.

Mr. D. A. January, being called upon moved that the resolutions be laid upon the table, and introduced the following:—

Resolved, That this Chamber respectfully but earnestly beg the Legislature of the State, now in session, to stop the issue of State bonds, except such as previous legislation makes imperative to be issued.

Resolved, That this Chamber earnestly beg the Legislature to pass such revenue laws as will give the most perfect and absolute assurance to the world that every obligation of the state of Missouri will be met to the day.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Chamber be instructed to send certified copies of these resolutions to the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Partridge supported the motion and resolutions of Mr. January, saying that the passage of resolutions was the only proper thing to be done in the premises, for they struck at the root of the evil complained of. He was glad the banks were maintaining specie payments, and hopes, for the credit of the city, they would continue so to do. Mr. Alexander followed, and insisted that the merchants must agree to receive and pay out currency at par, in order to start the wheels of commerce. He said, let the banks go on and maintain specie payment if they could, but what the merchants wanted was a circulating medium with which the crops could be moved and trade revived. The question on Mr. Cranwill's substitute was loudly called for, and at length, amid much confusion, was put and carried affirmatively.

Mr. January's resolutions were also carried unanimously. The meeting then adjourned.

THE CURRENCY IN ST. LOUIS.

[From the St. Louis Republican, Oct. 21.]

It may now be regarded as a fixed fact that the notes of all the good banks established in the West will have a definite currency and reputation, and be the medium for the settlement of accounts, the purchase of goods and payments for produce. This is pretty well established by the movement of the State Savings Institution; by the determination of thirty four of our largest houses to receive them at par, after many others had preceded them. It may be safely said now that currency will again become a circulating medium, and it ought to find its way readily to all the markets of the city. When this is done there will be a great alleviation of the financial panic throughout the city, and although we may all be compelled to live more economically, we shall still have the means of getting something to eat and to get along comfortably.

The whole town now seems to be willing to receive the currency, and it must rapidly appreciate, and business again move forward. A month of open, fair weather will enable our jobbers to dispose of a large amount of goods, we hope, at satisfactory prices, and our produce dealers will find the means of again engaging in their regular operations. In two or three weeks an active trade will commence in hogs, and then hundreds of thousands of dollars will be wanted to carry it on successfully. Where can this be obtained, unless currency is made the basis of it?

Court Calendar—This Day.

SUPREME COURT—Circuit.—Part 1.—Nos. 1091, 1216, 245, 247 to 258. Part 2.—Adjourned to Friday, Oct. 30, at ten o'clock.

U. S. DISTRICT COURT.—Nos. 21, 22, 23, 9, 37, 30, 31, 32, 34 to 37.

SUPERIOR COURT—Nos. 399, 258, 544, 545, 506, 547, 395, 402, 208, 213, 483, 397, 507, 549, 531, 638, 529, 448, 550, 451, 488, 456, 467, 602, 340, 178, 414, 296, 417, 488, 490, 491, 492, 608, 610, 1507, 561.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—New rule adopted Oct. 23, 1857:—Appeals from the Marine and District Courts shall hereafter, and until the further order of this Court, be heard orally at the general terms appointed for the submission thereof. The parties will be confined on the argument to a brief statement of the facts and points involved, and authorities relied on, unless the Court shall other wise direct.

BENJ. H. JARVIS, Clerk.

The New Election Law.

ORDER OF CANVASSING THE VOTES.

There will be six ballot boxes used at each election district in this city at the coming State election, which takes place one week from next Tuesday, and the votes in each will be counted in the following order:—

First—Box No. 2.—This box contains the State ticket, headed by the names of the candidates for the office of Secretary of State.

Second—Box No. 4.—This box contains the names of the candidates for the office of State Senator.

Third—Box No. 5.—This box contains the names of the candidates for the office of Member of Assembly.

Fourth—Box No. 6.—This box contains the names of the candidates for the offices of Register and District Attorney.

Fifth—Box No. 8.—This box contains the names of the candidates for the office of Judge of the Court of Appeals, Justices of the Supreme Court, Justices of the Superior Court, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Justice of the Marine Court, Surrogate and Recorder.

Sixth—Box for the votes for Inspectors and District Canvassers.

At the completion of the canvass of each box, in accordance with the requirements of the law, the chairman of the canvassers of the election will make public oral proclamation of the whole number of votes given for each person, with the name of the office to which such person was named on the ballot. The following are the number of

ELECTION DISTRICTS IN EACH WARD.

Wards.	Districts.	Wards.	Districts.
1	5	13	7
2	2	14	7
3	4	15	10
4	5	16	10
5	6	17	14
6	8	18	10
7	9	19	5
8	11	20	12
9	12	21	7
10	6	22	8
11	12		
12	5	Total	175

City Politics.

KNOW NOTHING NOMINATIONS FOR CANVASSERS AND INSPECTORS FOR THE NOVEMBER ELECTION.

On Saturday night the Tenth ward Know Nothings elected the following candidates for inspectors and canvassers to be voted for at the November election:—

Inspectors—Districts.—1. Jacob Leon, Thomas S. Hall. 2. Edward R. Demilt, Isaac N. Jessup. 3. John H. Ward, S. A. Clark. 4. Howard E. Coates, B. W. Bedford. 5. Marvin Dereaas, Thomas Thornton. 6. John Eberhard, Thomas Dering.

Canvassers.—1. R. W. Wicks. 2. Nathaniel S. Husted, B. F. Shaffer. 3. John C. Gilmore, John P. Prall. 4. F. B. Porter, J. E. Anderson. 5. Edward P. Brown, George T. Hall. 6. Horatio Reed, Lucius Rockwell.

THE UNION CONVENTION.

The Union Convention of republicans and Americans, for the purpose of forming a coalition on city and county offices, re-assembled at No. 18 Fourth avenue on Saturday evening, and on motion proceeded to take action with reference to selecting a candidate for register. The names of James H. Welsh, republican, and William S. Davidson, American, were submitted, and after a long and exceedingly warm discussion, relative to the fitness of the respective candidates, an informal vote was taken, resulting in 39 for Welsh and 37 for Davidson; but a resolution requiring all nominations to receive 66 votes, or two thirds of the whole delegation, no choice was made. This result was followed by the most intense excitement, each party declaring that they would not relinquish their candidate, and supporting them with the utmost vehemence. Pending this discussion a motion was made to leave the matter to a committee of ten—five of the leading men from each side—who should compromise the matter, and report the same to the convention.

After a long consultation, seven of the committee presented a report in favor of the nomine ion of James H. Welsh for Register, and J. Delafield Smith for District Attorney, both republicans. This report but added fuel to the fire already kindled among the American portion of the Convention, and various motions to adjourn sine die, and give the republicans the whole ticket, were made and discussed, as were the position and qualifications of the several candidates for the two offices, with much animation and evident ill feeling, during which sundry oaths and expressions were made use of by the intermonious delegates, who avowed that they had come there to effect a union, but they'd be d—d if they would go in for one unless they could have their favorites nominated. This wrangling was continued until about half past twelve o'clock, and only ended by a motion prevailing to appoint a committee of five from each side to wait on the respective candidates, for the purpose of endeavoring to effect an amicable arrangement with them, to report the result of their labors back to the Convention on Tuesday evening, at six o'clock.

The Convention then adjourned.

The Seaview House Tragedy.

CONNELLY'S ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE FROM PRISON—HIS LETTER FOR CONTRADICTION AND DENIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

FREEHOLD, N. J., Oct. 23, 1857.

During the course of last week the HERALD published an item calculated to injure me in the eyes of the public and prejudice my case in the minds of those who now have it in keeping.

My counsel has answered the item in the paper here, and I trust you will see that the same publicity is given to his card, as was given to the aforesaid item in the columns of the HERALD. It is a hard thing if my last moments are to be embittered by mere misrepresentations. My actions, since I have been in prison and prior to that time, belie all statements they can raise about me. Does my voluntary surrender of myself at the Highlands, when I had the fastest boat at my command—does my refusal to leave this place, when offered my liberty by one who took French leave, look like an idea of escaping?

Time is here willingly. I shall remain until I am taken from it by death or law. I am resigned to my untimely and unmerited doom. I am not afraid to die. It will be a welcome relief to me. They have taken from me my good name—they are welcome to my life.

My health and spirits remain the same. My poor heart is broken, but my spirit is and shall be firm. I cannot bring myself to believe that God will allow me to die for the crime of one—the unfortunate error of another.

Again thanking you for your kindness, and trusting the *amende honorable* will be attended to in your usual piquant style.

JAMES P. DONELLY,
of Washington, D. C.

The following is the correction alluded to by Donnelly, as having been made by his counsel, Mr. McLean:—

MR. EDITOR—Permit me to correct an error which made its appearance in the papers of this village last week, respecting Mr. Donnelly, stating that a club and been found in his bed, and a large amount of money about his person. The club proves, as I learned from Mr. John Young, one of the constables of this county, to have been a piece of wood one third the length of a mop-stick, but tapering about 18 or 18 inches long, cut to burn in a coal stove in the prison, and which Mr. Donnell had used to drive nails into the wall of his cell to hang his clothes upon, there being marks of the nails in the stick. It was picked up by Mr. Young off the floor near his washstand, and not found in the bed. The officers took from Mr. Donnelly $723 70. He owed a little over $100 of this for board since his confinement, and for some bills yet unpaid incurred during his trial, and which he has directed me to pay out of that money, leaving a little over $160 to meet other expenses which are accruing from time to time. Mr. Donnelly did not make any concealment of this money. Mr. Van Doren, the jail keeper, and others, know of his having it. The lies thrown out by these publications that Mr. Donnelly intended to employ a band of hired ruffians to liberate him from jail is perfectly idle, and his whole conduct since his confinement disproves any such supposition, and is only intended by his enemies to induce the sheriff to enforce greater rigor in his confinement, and to take from him many of those privileges and comforts which, through the kindness of the sheriff and Mr. Van Doren, he has enjoyed.

A. C. MCLEAN.

FREEHOLD, Oct. 20, 1857.

Personal Intelligence.

Gov. Robinson, of Kansas, and James Blood, Mayor of Lawrence, were in St. Louis on the 21st inst. Those gentlemen represent everything as quiet in the Territory.

Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, was lately married to Miss Harriet A. Pumpelly, of Oswego, N. Y.

Hon. G. Porter, Mo., and Col. Ripley, U. S. A., are in Washington.

ARRIVALS.

From Liverpool in the steamship Baltic—Rev Dr J W Alexander, lady and son, H Adderley and sister, W P Allen, Thos Apsley, M Abbins, S Appleton, G W Andrews, H Austin, J O Anderson and lady, J E Anderson, R T Brand, L A Boudinot, W Boffinger and lady, J Boorman, lady and three servants, Mrs Booth, two children and servant; E Boyce, J Sohan, A Clausen, N T Carryl, J M Connor, T Copeland, lady, child and servant; E W Cowdin, O C Converse, G T M Davis and lady, Calvin Durand, R Keelie, Miss Egbert, T D Elliott, M D Flanagan, Miss Funnies, A Gray, G Gladdon, S H Gifford, M Goldman, S Goodhue, M Gonnerr, Miss T Kingrees, A M Gougenheim, C F Hassell, J P and J N Layard, Miss M P Hazard, S Hastings, W Healy, M Hedland, J E Holmes, C Holzapfel, A S Hull M D and lady, E Johns, G Jones, S Johnson, G Lee, lady and servant, W W Lemar, Miss L Leupp, Miss E Leupp, Miss M Leupp, Miss Levenet, W Leiter and sister, Miss Lockwood, R V Lucey, A McIoochlin, M Mahler, T F Neary, W Miller, J Mobum, W W Montgomery, M Monahan, S Morrison, lady infant and nurse, J L Myers, P Mullan, M Nevins and lady, Miss H Newell, S Oser and lady, Mrs Parker, C Perkins, lady and servant, J A Peasgt and lady, C W Preston, O Price and lady, W Probst, G M Porter, K T Potter and lady, S Physick, lady two children and servant; Mr Pennett, lady four children and two servants; J A Ray, S M Raymond, G S Robbins, M Rosenzweig, M Sisaja, G Schepperhouse, T S Thorne and daughter, E Tell, J T Tapscott, lady, child and servant, Miss Teale, J B Tyler, J Vanderpoel and lady, E Kuckenbach, J Van Wert and son, Mr Wakefield and servant; M Ward and lady, C Webb, J W Wheeler and two daughters; E Z Wright, W Wilkens and lady, A Winterbo'ff, Miss Woolsey—Total, 169.

From Bermuda, in brig Princess Royal—Mr L Peck, John F Davenport, agent W Roffe and child, of the 22d Cameronians, F R Cuberbrine.

From Liverpool in ship Lucy Thompson—Mrs D L White, infant and servant, E M Webster.

From Porto au Prince, in brig Linda—D Bennett, W Frost.

From Charleston, in the steamship James Adger—Mrs S Bell, W F Bacon, B Vos Burgin, and 15 in steerage.

From Turks Islands, in brig Tyrhut—Daniel Harriott, Mrs Edwin Todd.

From San Juan, in brig Ocean Bird—Henry Weideman, Joseph Scott, J Andrews, J Farrell, and A Hilmple and servant.

DEPARTURES.

For Bermuda, in brig Star Queen—Mrs J Tuno and son, Mrs Durrant, Mrs Condy, Miss Roberts, J F Smith, J Talbot, H Whitmore.

For Bermuda, in brig T M Mayhew—Miss J Smith, Miss R Smith, J L Smith, T Lighthourn, Rev M Frith, Mrs Frith, R Ward, Miss Ward, and others.

MARITIME INTELLIGENCE.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

FROM EUROPE.

Name.	From.	Date.	For.	Date.
Persia	Liverpool	Oct. 14	New York	
Arago	Southampton	Oct. 14	New York	
City of Baltimore	Liverpool	Oct. 14	New York	
Canada	Liverpool	Oct. 14	Boston	
Arabia	Liverpool	Oct. 21	New York	
Glasgow	Glasgow	Oct. 21	New York	
Hammonia	Hamburg	Nov. 1	New York	
Atlantic	Liverpool	Nov. 11	New York	

FOR EUROPE.

Name.	From.	Date.	For.	Date.
Asia	New York	Oct. 28	Liverpool	
Jason	New York	Oct. 28	Bremen, &c	
Kangaroo	New York	Oct. 29	Liverpool	
North Star	New York	Oct. 31	Bremen, &c	
Edinburg	New York	Oct. 31	Glasgow	
Europa	Boston	Nov. 4	Liverpool	
Baltic	New York	Nov. 7	Liverpool	
Persia	New York	Nov. 11	Liverpool	
Arago	New York	Nov. 14	Havre	

FOR CALIFORNIA, &C.

Black Warrior	New York	Oct. 27	Havana, &c	

STEAMERS TO AND FROM HAVANA.

PHILADELPHIA—From New York 2d, arriving at Havana 8th and New Orleans 11th. From New Orleans 20th, Havana 23d, arriving at New York 28th.

QUAKER CITY—From New York 7th of each month, arriving at Havana 12th, and Mobile 14th. From Mobile 23d, Havana 24th, arriving at New York 28th.

CARAWELA—From New York 12th, arriving at Havana 17th, and New Orleans 19th. From New Orleans 27th, Havana 29th, arriving at New York 5d.

EMPIRE CITY—From New York 17th, arriving at Havana