the United States, armed and used in the war of 1812. This suit is brought to recover of the government the value of the schooner and cargo. Mr. Rockwell opened the argument for the claimant.

MARCH 23.—James Crooks and others vs The United States. Mr. Gillet, United States Solicitor, argued this case for the United States. Mr Rockwell followed in behalf of the petitioners. Hon H. L. Stephens closed the argument for the petitioners, and the case was submitted.

J. Alexis Port vs. The United States. This is a case to recover the value of certain tobacco which had been seized as Mexican government property at Puebla by the forces of the United States in 1847, and was purchased from the United States Quartermaster by the petitioner, but was afterwards discovered not to have been the property of the Mexican government, and was reclaimed from him. Mr. Rockwell opened the argument for the petitioner, and, without concluding, the Court adjourned.

MARCH 24.—*J. Alexis Port vs. The United States.*—Mr. Rockwell resumed, and concluded the opening argument in this case for the petitioner. Mr. Gillet, the solicitor, replied for the United States. Mr. Rockwell closed the argument for the petitioner, and the case was submitted.

Israel Ketchum vs. The United States.—Mr. Rockwell opened the argument in this case for the petitioner, and without concluding, the Court adjourned.

MARCH 28.—Israel Ketchum vs. The United States.—A suit to recover from the United States the amount due by Nimrod Farrow to the petitioner, as one of the sub-contractors on the fortifications at Dauphin Island, for whose benefit a bond was taken by the Secretary of War from said Farrow, under an act approved March 3, 1825, conditioned for the payment of said Farrow's debts to his sub-contractors. Hon J. A. Rockwell concluded the opening argument for the petitioner. Mr. Gillet, the Solicitor, replied for the United States. Mr. Rockwell closed the argument for the petitioner, and the case was submitted.

MARCH 29.—Thomas B. King vs The United States.—The petitioner claims fees as pilot at Brazos St Jago, for services rendered or offered to vessels in the service of the United States in the years 1846 and 1847, and while he was employed in the Quartermaster's Department in command of a government steamer. Hon. P. Phillips opened the argument in this case for the petitioner. Mr Gillet, the Solicitor, replied for the United States. Mr. Phillips closed the argument for the petitioner, and the case was submitted.

R. Van Brunt vs. The United States.—Submitted, by consent, on written brief.

MARCH 30.—Fernando Famanlego vs. The United States.—A claim for damages for detention of sundry teams waiting for freight under contract with the Quartermaster's Department at Fort Clark, Texas, in 1855. Hon. J. A. Rockwell opened the argument in this case for the petitioner. Mr. Gillet, the solicitor, replied for the United States. Mr. Rockwell closed the argument for the petitioner, and the case was submitted.

William H. Chase vs. The United States.—A claim for double rations while commanding as engineer officer of fortification, being a permanent post of the United States, but not garrisoned with troops. Hon. J. A Rockwell opened the argument in this case for the petitioner.

MARCH 31, 1859.—William H. Chase vs. the United States.—Hon. J. A. Rockwell resumed and concluded the opening argument in this case for the petitioner. Mr. Gillet, the solicitor, replied for the United States. Mr. Rockwell closed the argument, and the case was submitted. Adjourned until Monday next, twelve o'clock M.

Interesting Information Relative to Bounty Land Warrants.

The following is a copy of an important decision which has just emanated from the General Land Office:—

1. That the bounty land warrants issued by the United States are declared by the act of Congress, approved June 3, 1858, to be personal property.

2. That such warrant cannot be sold by an administrator of the estate of the deceased warrantee, for the payment of debts contracted by such warrantee

3. That such warrants, when issued during the lifetime of the warrantee, and not disposed of by him, become, if he die intestate, the property of his heirs at law, in accordance with the law of descent, and cannot be attached and sold for the payment of his debts. [If he die intestate, see fifth paragraph following.]

4. Warrants issued after the death of the warrantee, but upon proof filed during his lifetime, become the property of his widow, if there be one; and if no widow, then the property of his heirs at law, without regard to their age.

5. The proceeds of the sale of a warrant, made by an administrator, is the absolute property of the widow herself, or legatees, without regard to any debt contracted by the warrantee; but the practice of this office has been to recognise assignments properly made by an administrator for distribution of the proceeds among the heirs at law, after payment of the funeral and proper court expenses. [Attorney's and administrator's fees, not taxed by the court, are not regarded as proper court expenses.]

6. The rules of this office require, in all cases, when a warrant has been sold by an executor, that a duly certified copy of the will, with letters testamentary, shall be attached to the warrant; and in cases where a sale is made by an administrator or guardian, that certified copies of the letters of administration or guardianship shall be attached; and that the sale has been made for the use of life heirs only must be shown either in the assignment or in the papers submitted with each case.

Interesting Suit for Shippers and Ship Owners.

A case of some importance to ship owners was decided in this city recently in the United States District Courtby Judge Betts. It was an action for libel on the ship Fanny Fosdick, Nelson J. Nettleton and others. It appears that the libellants had shipped 990 sacks of wheat on board the Fosdick, in December last, at New Orleans, for this city, but the grain having been brought into too close contact with some Breckinridge coal oil, the offensive smell of the latter, it was alleged, damaged it, and for this damage the action was brought. The defence was—first, that no damage was sustained; and, second, that the ship was engaged in the business of carrying a general cargo, and that the wheat was well and securely stored according to the usage of the trade, 200 bags only being in the same hold with the oil, and the evidence went to show that the remaining 790 bags, stowed between decks, could not be injured by the volatile gases emitted by the oil. The Court decided that there was nothing to prove the article in a perishable condition, or that a few days' ventilation would not remove the smell entirely. He therefore declared that the libellants established no right of action, and dismissed the libel with costs to be taxed.

An Array of Alleged Murderers in Court.

COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER.

Before Hon. Judge Davies.

APRIL 4.—The Court of Oyer and Terminer this morning presented an unusual array of alleged criminals; for although assassination in every form—by the knife, the pistol, or the slow, insidious poison—is rife in our city, we seldom see so many of the supposed perpetrators at the bar of justice at the same time.

John Glass, James Glass, James Higgins, James Loftus and John Quinlan, indicted for the murder of William Decker—the Elm street murder.

Their trial, on motion of the District Attorney, was postponed, by consent of ex-Judge Whiting, their counsel, until the third Monday of the month, when an extra panel of jurors will be summoned.

Jean Bosquet (insane), indicted for the murder of Maltino de Santa, is one of the most extraordinary looking specimens of humanity we have ever seen: his forehead is very low, his face perfectly flat, and his small, twinkling eyes sunken into the sockets so far that it is only occasionally they are perceptible; he is constantly muttering to himself and his counsel. Mr. Anthon says that his madness arises from his personal appearance; that, in fact, he has been hooted into madness by the urchins of the streets, who have invariably followed him with their hootings.

The District Attorney said there was no doubt of the accused being insane, and that, therefore, he was not responsible for the alleged act. Mr. Anthon and the District Attorney then arranged that an inquiry should be made by medical men into the state of the prisoner's mind.

Quimbo Appo, the Chinaman, charged with the murder of Mrs. Fletcher, is young looking and small in stature, without any marked features of ferocity of countenance which one would expect to see in an individual charged with the heinous offence for which he is to be tried.

Thomas Murphy, indicted for the murder of Eliza Murphy, is a man apparently 33 years of age. It appears that the principal person charged with the homicide is not yet amenable.

Michael Flynn, indicted for the murder of Freeman Cutting, in Roosevelt street, by stabbing him, is also a man of youthful appearance.

The petit jurors were called over; but few answered to their names, and some of those offered excuses against serving.

The District Attorney said that he did not expect to have been able to proceed to day with any of the trials. He had the prisoners brought down to Court in order that they might be formally handed over to the Sheriff.

The Court so directed, and Sheriff Kelly and some half dozen of his deputies took the prisoners in charge and conducted them to jail.

The Court then adjourned to Monday next at 10 o'clock.

Court of Common Pleas.

Before Hon. Judge Hilton.

APRIL 4.—*Edwin Forrest vs. N. P. Willis.*—This case, which was on the calendar for to-day, was postponed until Friday next It is an action for libel. Mr. Forrest was in court, accompanied by his counsel, Mr. Van Buren, and was looking remarkably well and in good spirits, and conversed with several friends around him in a manner which seemed to indicate that his "soul" was "in arms and eager for the fray." Mr. Willis was not in court but was represented by his counsel, Mr. Fancher. The facts of the plaintiff and defendant being so well known as public characters, and their long hostility to each other, will create a more than ordinary degree of interest about this suit.

Surrogate's Office.

Before Edward C. West, Surrogate.

APRIL 4.—*Admission of a Verbal Will to Probate.*—Henry Pearson shipped from this port on board the American ship Eureka, as a seaman, on a voyage to China and back, but died on the 6th of March last, on the return passage from Shanghae to New York. On the 22d of February previous, he made a verbal disposition of his property and effects in the presence of three of his shipmates, who were all examined, and testified that the deceased wished all his property to go to the children of Thos. Ross, deceased. The names of the legatees are Anna and Mary Ross, both of whom reside in the city of New York. The Surrogate directed the will to be admitted to probate, and letters of guardianship to be issued for the legatees, and that the guardian take out letters of administration, with the will annexed

The wills of Henry A Patterson, Ferris Finch, Merritt H. Smith, Townsend Bedell, Elisha C Wilcox, Samuel Haycock, Joshua L. Shattuck, Christina Freund and Emily L. Van Nauren were severally admitted to probate.

The wills of Thos. Raven, Stotley T. Jones, William Dodge and David Lyons have been offered for probate.

THE SICKLES TRAGEDY.

Trial of Daniel E. Sickles for Killing Philip Barton Key.

INTENSE EXCITEMENT IN WASHINGTON.

APPEARANCE OF THE ACCUSED.

INTERESTING SCENES IN COURT.

EMPANNELLING THE JURY.

Singular Answers of Some of the Jurors,

&c., &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, April 4, 1859.

To day the trial of the Hon. Daniel E. Sickles for the killing of Philip Barton Key began, and an intense interest is manifested throughout the community in regard to it.

The court room was crowded to excess, and thousands had to go away disappointed. Among those present I noticed a number of disunguished strangers. E. B. Hartt, T. F. Meagher and H. Wikoff, of New York; Hon. T. B. Florence, of Pennsylvania, and others were present.

The applications for admission to the dingy little room in the City Hall, where the Criminal Court is held, were very numerous; but so miserable are the accommodations that even the reporters found great difficulty in securing seats.

The space within the bar of the court room was densely crowded with traverse jurors, lawyers, reporters and witnesses. More than the usual number of uniformed police were present.

The doors were thrown open to the public, but about fifty were privately admitted to the area usually occupied by spectators Many outsiders were clamorous for admittance, and a number gained ingress at the window. While much interest was manifested in the court, there was general good order.

As to desks or tables, or other facilities for reporting this important trial, they are out of the question. Imbecility and ignorance are characteristic of the old fogy officials here. Though there might easily have been proper arrangements made by the introduction of tables or temporary desks, the people, or Marshal, or whoever ought to attend to it, have been practising only the easy plan of "how not to do it," and their obtuseness is so extreme that remonstrance is useless.

No more than three or four reporters have been able to get facilities for writing, and those for the Associated Press are not amongst them, although application was made by them weeks ago. They have, however, ventured on taking seats at the table set apart for the lawyers.

I visited Mr. Sickles in prison at a late hour last evening. There is no special hour for excluding visiters. When I called there were three gentlemen with him, among them his father. I had not seen Mr. Sickles since his arrest, and was hardly prepared to find him looking so well. His manner was pleasantly natural. There was little or no talk about the event in which so deep an interest is felt; at the same time there was no apparent desire to evade the subject Conversation was kept up on a variety of topics, and the accused bore his part in it with such ease that no one would imagine that he bore a great and abiding grief in his heart. His little pet Italian greyhound now sat on his knee and now got between the sheets of the bed, placed in one corner of the jailor's room, which is occupied by Mr. Sickles. The room is furnished coarsely, but still with comfort, and the prisoner appears to make the most of it.

The Yankee clock that wags against the wall in the Criminal Court room has just struck ten o'clock—the hour for the assembling of the Court—but the Judge has not yet taken his seat upon the bench. There is a large crowd assembled in and around the City Hall awaiting the opening of the doors of the court room. Some hundred persons have already gained admittance through the private doors. All around may be noticed the buzz and bustle of preparation for the great trial.

Mr. Sickles has not been brought into court yet, but several of his counsel have come in. His counsel are—

James T. Brady, of New York.

E. P. Stanton, of Pittsburg.

Messrs. Samuel Chilton and Daniel Ratcliffe, of Washington.

There are several other gentlemen associated with these, among them Mr. Thos. Francis Meagher, of New York.

Of Mr. Sickles' witnesses there are quite a number from New York. The following gentlemen have already been subpoenaed by the Marshal, and will be in attendance during the trial:—

Hon. John Kelly, Sheriff of New York city.
Hon. Wm. B. Maclay, Member of Congress.
Captain James Leonard, of the Metropolitan Police.
Mathew T. Brennan, Police Justice.
Ex-Judge A. A. Phillips.
Fred. A. Talmadge, Superintendent of Police.
Ex-Recorder James M. Smith, Jr.
Richard B. Connolly, late County Clerk.
John Clancy, County Clerk.
William Miner, Register.
Captain Joseph Dowling, of the Metropolitan Police.
Isaac Bell, Jr., Supervisor.
Edward C. West, Surrogate.
R. J. Dillon, ex Corporation Attorney.
Charles K. Graham, Engineer of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.
James McGowan, of Porter's *Spirit of the Times.*

The prosecution is conducted by Mr. Robert Ould, the Attorney of the United States for the District of Columbia, and it is understood that he will employ Mr. J. M. Carlisle to aid him; at least application is to be made for permission to do so.

At a quarter before ten o'clock A. M. Judge Crawford, a venerable and dignified looking man, took his seat on the bench, and the crier opened the Court. Soon afterwards the public doors were thrown open, and the room was immediately filled.

Messrs. Brady and others, counsel of the prisoner, were presented to the Court by Mr. Magruder.

The Judge said that case number one hundred and twenty-four, being that of Mr. Sickles, was set down for to-day, and asked whether the counsel were ready on both sides.

The answer was in the affirmative.

The panel for the petit jury was then called.

Mr. Ould asked that the witnesses for the prosecution should be called, and all answered to their names but four, as follows:—

Dr. R. H. Coolidge.
Dr. Stone.
T. E. Martin.
J. N. Reed.
J. Gartrell.
P. R. Van Wyck.
A. Upshur.
E. Tisdall.
J. L. Dudrow.

The absentees were Messrs. R. M. Downing, E. Pendleton, F. Doyle and R. Brodhead.

The Judge directed the Marshal to bring in the prisoner, but considerable time elapsed before the order was obeyed. The excitement at this juncture was intense.

When Mr. Sickles appeared every eye was bent upon him. His manner was calm and dignified, but subdued. He returned the recognition of several of his friends and acquaintances, and took his seat beside his counsel, but near the railing that separates the lawyers from the audience.

Mr. Ould begged permission before the arraignment of the prisoner to state that Mr. Carlisle was associated with him in the prosecution of the case. This association was extremely gratifying to him, and he was sure it would also be agreeable to the Court. The indictment was then read to the prisoner, charging him, with the usual quantity of legal verbiage, with the murder of Philip Barton Key, in the city of Washington, on the 27th of February.

Mr. Sickles was asked the question, "Are you guilty or not guilty?"

In a clear, firm tone, he responded, "Not guilty."

The task of getting a jury was then commenced.

Joseph P. O'Brien was the first juror called.

The Judge said he would put the usual questions to the jurors touching their impartiality.

Mr. Stanton stated that the defence would be satisfied with that course.

Question by the Judge—Have you at any time formed or expressed an opinion in relation to the guilt or innocence of the accused?

Juror—I have.

The Judge—You may retire.

Mr. Phillips, for the defence, proposed to ask the juror whether his opinion was founded on rumor or on a knowledge of the facts. If merely found on rumor, and the juror could form a fair judgment, he contended that he was competent. The defence was anxious to obtain a jury without unnecessary delay. He intended that he was competent.

The Judge permitted the examination in that way.

Question—Have you formed and expressed an opinion in this case on rumor or on a knowledge of the facts?

Juror—Merely on rumor.

Q. Would you be able, on hearing the evidence, to render an impartial verdict?

Juror (emphatically)—No, sir; my mind is biassed in favor of the prisoner. (Great sensation throughout the court room.)

The Judge—Stand aside.

Samuel H. Howell was then examined.

Question by the Judge—Have you formed an opinion in relation to the guilt or innocence of the accused?

A. Not that I am aware of.

Q. Have you an impression upon it?

A. I have, but I have no prejudice.

Q. Would you be able to form an impartial judgment?

A. I would.

The Judge said the juror was competent.

Challenged peremptorily.

Charles M Skepwith sworn—Had formed an opinion in regard to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner. Has a prejudice or bias on his mind for or against the prisoner.

Question by Mr. Phillips—Is that bias of so fixed a character that you could not render a fair and impartial verdict?

Answer—I do not know that I could.

The juror was ordered to stand aside.

Joseph L. Savage was next called—He had formed and expressed an opinion.

The juror was ordered to stand aside.

Henry M. Hurdle, called—Had never formed or expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused; he had no bias or prejudice either way.

Question by Mr. Ould—Have you any conscientious scruples in regard to finding a verdict of guilty in a capital case?

The Juror—I have not.

Question—Are you worth eight hundred dollars?

The Juror—I am not.

Mr. Ould submitted that that amounted to a disqualification.

Mr. Stanton wanted to know whether the prosecution were going to insist on the property qualification.

Mr. Ould—The law requires it.

The Judge remarked that the law of Maryland fixed a property qualification for jurors; but, unless counsel raised the question, the juror would not be incompetent.

The prosecution, it will be observed, made the first challenge, and in challenging the juror they did revive an old custom in vogue in Maryland requiring jurors to have property qualifications. This conduct on the part of the District Attorney caused some dissatisfaction among Mr. Sickles' friends.

John Scrivener was next called—He regretted to say that he had formed and expressed an opinion in relation to the guilt or innocence of the accused. His opinion was formed from the statement of an eye witness.

Ordered to stand aside.

Reyn Arnold was called next—He had not formed or expressed an opinion; had no bias or prejudice in favor of or against the prisoner; had no conscientious scruples about capital punishment, and was worth over eight hundred dollars.

Sworn as the first juror.

Wm. Dawson was called next—He had not formed or expressed an opinion; has no bias or prejudice in favor of or against the prisoner, and no conscientious scruples.

Challenged peremptorily.

James L. Davis was called next—He had formed an opinion to a certain extent from newspaper reports; had no bias or prejudice on his mind; had no conscientious scruples, and is worth eight hundred dollars.

The Judge thought the juror competent.

Mr. Davis was sworn.

Lewis Brooks was called next—He had no impression on his mind that would influence his conduct as a juror; is not biased on either side, but has his sympathies.

The Judge thought that this expression of sympathy rendered the juror incompetent.

Mr. Stanton held that the question here was one of judgment not of heart, and that sympathies were not a disqualification, except they went to the extent of influencing the judgment.

The Judge thought that, if a man had sympathies on either side, they affected his impartiality.

The juror, on being further questioned, said that he could most undoubtedly render a fair and impartial judgment; he did not know that his sympathies would cloud his judgment if the case was clear.

The Judge thought that the juror's answers amounted to a disqualification, and the juror was ordered to stand aside.

Exception was taken.

Lewis Wright was called next—He had partly formed an opinion from the statement of a man who had witnessed the transaction; his mind was not fully made up.

Ordered to stand aside.

John E. Neale was called—He had formed and expressed an opinion from what he had read in the newspapers and heard in the streets; he could give a fair and impartial verdict on the evidence; has no impression that would influence his mind, and has no prejudice or bias. Also had no conscientious scruples, and is worth over eight hundred dollars.

The Judge thought the juror competent. Mr. Neale was sworn.

—— Griffin called—He had no impression, bias or prejudice, and no conscientious scruples.

By Mr. Ould—Are you worth $800 in property? No, sir.

Disqualified.

Wm. M. S. Hopkins called—Had no impression, bias or prejudice, and no conscientious scruples; is worth $800 Sworn.

John Smith called—Has no bias or prejudice against any man, and no conscientious scruples; is worth $800

Challenged peremptorily.

Thomas B Bradford called—Had formed and expressed an opinion, derived from mere rumor; did not think he could make a fair, good juror. Disqualified.

Edwin Butler called—Had formed and expressed an opinion, founded on rumor; thinks he could render a fair verdict on the evidence; had always the opinion that every person who commits wilful murder ought to suffer for it; has no bias or prejudice on either side. Disqualified.

Lawrence Jardella called—Had formed and expressed an opinion on mere rumor; could not render a fair verdict. Disqualified.

N. B. Brooks and David Hepburn made similar answers, and were pronounced disqualified.

Daniel B. Sylvester called—Had no bias or prejudice, and had formed no opinion; had no conscientious scruples, but was not worth eight hundred dollars. Disqualified.

Wm. Bond called—Had no bias, prejudice or conscientious scruples, and is worth $800. Sworn.

Bennett Sewell called—Had no bias, prejudice or conscientious scruples, but is worth less than nothing.

Mr. Stanton wanted to know whether the District Attorney challenged on that ground.

The Judge—The act of ——— expressly states that no man shall be qualified as a juror unless he owns real or personal property worth $800. Counsel might waive objection however.

Mr. Stanton wanted to know whether the District Attorney challenged on that ground.

The Judge—The question is a challenge in itself.

Mr. Stanton wished it so understood.

Warren Low called—Has no bias, prejudice or conscientious scruples. Challenged peremptorily.

Alison White called—Had formed an opinion from rumor, and could not form an impartial verdict. Disqualified.

George E. Kirk called—Has formed an opinion from rumor, and from the relation that he stood to the prisoner as a married man he would be afraid to sit as a juror Disqualified.

James Fullalove called—Had formed and expressed an opinion, and thinks he could not render a fair verdict. Disqualified.

Wm Worthington and Richard E. Sims were disqualified for the same cause.

This exhausted the panel, and the Judge ordered the Marshal to summon seventy-five talesmen for to morrow.

The whole number of jurors who answered to their names was thirty. Of these four were challenged peremptorily, four disqualified on account of lack of property, seventeen set aside for cause, and five sworn, as follows:—

1. Reuin Arnold, of Washington county, farmer.
2. James L. Davis, of Washington county, farmer.
3. John E. Neale, Washington city, merchant.
4. Wm. M. S. Hopkins, Washington city, furnishing store.
5. Wm. Bond, Washington city, shoe manufacturer.

As the jurors were severally sworn they were desired to look upon the prisoner, who rose on each occasion, and calmly surveyed the Court and joryman. The strictest silence pervaded the entire court room, and every face was flushed with the excitement attending the scene.

The jurors thus sworn were allowed to separate, but were duly cautioned by the Judge not to speak with or listen to any person on the subject of the trial.

During this time the prisoner sat in the dock, which is a railed enclosure about six feet wide and three feet long. Near by sat the prisoner's father, Mr. Bagiola, father of Mrs. Sickles, and several of the prisoner's most intimate friends.

Mr. Stanton called the attention of the Court to the fact that the prisoner was placed in the box where his counsel had no ready access to him. He asked the Court to order the box to be placed in such a position that Mr. Sickles could confer with his counsel. In point of fact, he may as well remain in jail during the trial of his cause as be where he is now placed.

The Judge could not consent to have the prisoner's box placed beside the lawyers'. It was the rule to keep it where it was placed. It might, however, be removed to the railing directly back of the bar, and the Marshal would be directed to keep the way open.

Mr. Magruder submitted that it was not asking too much to have the prisoner confronted with the jurors and his accusers. The accused might conduct his own defence, and certainly in such a case would not be forced to occupy such an out of the way place. They would not ask anything for him on the ground of his public position, or on the ground of his profession, but merely what they would ask for the humblest American citizen. In the various States whence the counsel come the prisoner is always permitted to occupy a seat beside his lawyers. He asked that such facilities should be extended in this case.

The Judge asked whether counsel had ever known a man to be tried for murder who was not placed in the dock?

Mr. Magruder admitted that the prisoner might first be placed in the dock, but the practice in Virginia Alabama, New York and other States, was that the prisoner should sit beside his counsel, and have, if need be, facilities for writing.

The Judge had never seen a man tried for murder who was not placed in the dock, and had never read of such a case, certainly not in England; he was not disposed to make any distinction in this case.

Mr. Stanton disclaimed a desire to have any distinction made. They would be satisfied with the arrangement suggested by the Judge.

Instructions to that effect were given to the Marshal.

Seventy-five talesmen were ordered to be summoned by the Marshal, and returned at ten o'clock the following morning.

The Court then adjourned for the day, it being then about one o'clock P. M.

Political Intelligence.

SUSTAINING AN ABOLITION NEWSPAPER IN KENTUCKY.—Nearly every year the editor of an abolition paper printed in Newport, Ky., makes an appeal to the Northern abolitionists for material aid to enable him to carry his enterprise through. A prominent feature in these appeals, and one which is intended to have an overpowering influence, is the fact that the editor has the boldness to establish and carry on in a slaveholding community a newspaper advocating abolition doctrines. We fail to see the force of this argument, when we consider that Newport lays in proximity to Cincinnati, much the same as Jersey City does to New York, and that the inhabitants are in a great measure made up from the business portion of Cincinnati, who are by no means pro-slavery fire-eaters, or men with sentiments at all similar to those who composed the Lovejoy mob some years ago. In reference to the present appeal of the Newport editor, the Lafayette, Ind., *Journal*, a black republican paper, says:—

Mr. W. S. Bailey, of the Newport (Ky.) *Free South*, an abolition newspaper, is in New York begging subscriptions for the support of his paper. From our personal knowledge of Mr. Bailey and his enterprise, we do not think them entitled to such assistance as is demanded for them. He does not enjoy the most enviable reputation among his neighbors, and his paper is a radical infidel and abolition concern, utterly destitute of influence, and enjoys a merely nominal circulation in Kentucky. We have as deep an interest as any Northern man can have in the emancipation of that noble old State from an incubus which has for so many years stifled her developement and prosperity; but we gravely doubt if so desirable a movement can be advanced by such men as Mr. Bailey or such papers as the *Free South*. Cassius M. Clay, by his intemperate zeal, set the emancipation cause in Kentucky back half a century; but to give encouragement to such characterless fanatics as Bailey will have a tendency to ruin it forever.

THE CANVASS IN VIRGINIA.—Just before the adjournment of Congress Mr. Letcher, the democratic candidate for Governor in Virginia, made a number of appointments to address the people, and then invited Mr. Goggin, the candidate of the opposition, to accompany him. Mr. G. readily assented, and thus far has stuck to him pretty close. These appointments will soon end, in view of which Mr. Goggin has made out a new programme, and now, in turn, invites Mr. Letcher to accompany him. What will honest John do?

MR. GUTHRIE.—The Presidential movement for Mr. Guthrie has been principally stimulated by Mr. Peter G. Washington, formerly his Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

A DEMOCRATIC SCHEME IN GEORGIA.—The Atlanta (Ga.) *Southern Confederacy* says that Howell Cobb, John Henry Lumpkin and Joseph E. Brown have entered into a bargain and sale of the people of Georgia, for the purpose of furthering their own individual plans. Howell Cobb is the present Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Brown is the Governor of Georgia, and Mr. Lumpkin the most formidable contestant Mr. Brown had for the nomination. The object of Brown, the *Confederacy* says, was to secure the influence of Lumpkin and his friends in favor of his renomination. To this end Brown proposes to Cobb that if he, Cobb, will "fix" Lumpkin, Brown will use all his influence to secure Cobb's nomination by the Charleston Convention, to which Cobb agrees, and straightway goes to work on Lumpkin to reconcile him to Brown's re nomination, by means of various suggested considerations, one of which was the election of Lumpkin to the United States Senate by ousting Judge Iverson, and failing in that, a first class mission. The *Confederacy* says it has respectable witnesses to substantiate its charges, and will do so whenever the parties implicated shall deny the charges and call for the proof.

OLD LINE WHIGS IN LOUISIANA.—A call has been issued for a convention of whigs, to be held at New Orleans on the second Wednesday of June. The dissensions of the democratic party, its divided opinions on all the leading public questions of the day, and the necessity of combining the conservative men of the country against it, are given as the reasons for issuing this call.

SATISFIED.—The Hon. Geo. W. Jones, democrat, from the Sixth district of Tennessee, who has served eighteen years in Congress, has declined becoming a candidate for re election.

KENTUCKY.—Hon. J. H. Jewett, democrat, of Kentucky, has announced himself a candidate for re election to Congress in the Fifth district.

City Intelligence.

DESERTERS ARRESTED.—The two men, Charles McDonald and Henry Cannon, who were rescued from a raft on Sunday night by the ferry boat Brooklyn, in the East river, turned out to be deserters from Uncle Sam's service at Governor's Island, instead of sailors, as they represented at the time they were picked up. They were sent back to Fort Columbus.

THE TWELFTH REGIMENT.—A committee from this excellent corps went up to Albany last Friday night, and the next day had a very agreeable interview with Governor Morgan in regard to matters connected with their consolidation with the Tenth regiment. A full expression of views was given on both sides, and the committee returned to this city fully satisfied that the Governor would do them justice.

NEW YORK TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—At a meeting of this society, held on Saturday evening last, the following named gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:—President, Thomas T. Sutliffe; Vice President, Robert S Menesmith; Treasurer, James Narins; Secretary, Thomas C. Faulkner; Librarian, Jno. Craw.

CHANGE IN THE TIME OF THE DEPARTURE OF TRAINS.—The trains on the Erie Railroad for Dunkirk and Buffalo leave this city at 6 A. M. The through mail train at 8 A. M. Rockland passenger train at 3:30 P. M., via Piermont. Way passenger train for Newburg and intermediate stations, 4 P. M. Night express train for Dunkirk and Buffalo at 5 P. M. On the Hudson River Railroad the express trains leave Chambers street at 6 and 11 A. M, and 5 P.M.

CITY ITEMS.—The work of demolishing the Broadway theatre was commenced yesterday morning. The steam fire engines "J. C. Cary" and "J. S. Storm" have been laid up at the Novelty Works, in consequence of the want of funds to pay the hands necessary to operate them, as no appropriation has been made for the purpose. The Clay festival, in honor of the birthday of Henry Clay, will take place on the 12th inst, by a grand banquet at the Lafarge House. Several eminent whigs will take part in the festivities. The Mozart Hall Democratic Associations met last evening at their several places of rendezvous, and effected permanent organizations.

THE FALL OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.—The rate of descent necessary to produce a rapid current in a river is very slight. A fall of ten inches to the mile is sufficient to obstruct navigation. It is owing to the very slight descent in the Mississippi river that it is navigable to so great an extent. We learn from an article in the journal of the Geographical and Statistical Society, that the rate of descent in that river, below the junction with the Ohio, is but 2.6 inches to the mile, and from the mouth of the Minnesota to the Ohio 5.75 inches. The total fall, from the mouth of the Minnesota to the Gulf, 2,192 miles, is 744 feet, or at the rate of 4.07 inches to the mile The greatest fall is between the Rock Island Rapids and the Ohio—8.4 inches to the mile.

Police Intelligence.

CHARGE OF SEDUCTION—A CURIOUS CASE.—Some weeks ago Charles F. Church, of No. 56 Vandam street, appeared before Justice Kelly, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, and preferred a charge of seduction against Charles Fairchild, a young man about twenty one years old, residing at No. 2 Watts street, in having, as it is alleged, seduced complainant's daughter, Lucinda, a girl of scarce fifteen years, under promise of marriage. The matter was under investigation for six weeks, at the end of which time the magistrate held the accused to answer, and on Saturday last the papers were sent down to the Grand Jury. We append an abstract of the evidence elicited on the examination:—

Lucinda Church deposed that she was the daughter of Charles F. Church, and resided with her parents at No. 56 Vandam street; is fifteen years old; became acquainted with Charles Fairchild about the first of August, 1857; was in the habit of attending her father's store at No. 34 Hudson street, and on her way thither was met by the defendant; was in the habit of meeting him in the street and walking with him; this continued for about a year; became very much attached to defendant; during the month of August he proposed to marry her, but her parents being opposed to the match, and having forbidden the defendant to enter their house, she refused the offer; defendant importuned her to marry him, and at the end of three weeks she consented to clandestinely leave her parents' house for the purpose of becoming his wife; on the 31st August, 1854, she met defendant by appointment, and accompanied him to the house of Mrs. Langton, No. 54 Leonard street; at that time she was not aware of the character of said house, but supposed they went there to be married; that defendant conducted her to a private room, and there, under solemn promise of marriage, he seduced her from the paths of virtue; that defendant left the house the next morning, and as he did so he told complainant she must make money the same as the other girls in the house, and that after having made some money they would both proceed to Chicago; that she left the house a few hours after defendant, and proceeded to the residence of Miss Louisa Denman, corner of Eighth avenue and Eighteenth street; that she left there that evening and went to Washington Parade Ground, where she slept on the grass until the following morning

Charles F. Church deposed that when he discovered the intimacy which had sprung up between defendant and his daughter he forbade her to have anything to do with him, as he was a man of loose and dissolute habits; that Fairchild persisted in paying his attentions, and by bribing the members of his household succeeded in sending his daughter notes and messages; that his daughter disappeared from home on the 31st of August last, and was absent for several days, witness believing that defendant was privy to her abduction, caused his arrest, when he offered to produce the girl if he was released, and that he eventually did so; that previous to Lucinda's acquaintance with defendant, she was a chaste, dutiful and obedient daughter, and since her return she has borne the same relations to her parents; that it was not until recently witness was assured of the fact of his daughter having been seduced, and hence the delay in prosecuting defendant.

Fairchild is now in the City Prison, serving out his sentence in an assault and battery case, and when his time expires he will be recommitted on charge of seduction. The bail required in this case is set down at $5,000.

A SERIOUS COMPLAINT AGAINST THE SPIRITS.—Wm. Wilson, residing at No. 261 Bowery, is a spiritualist and a son of St. Crispin. Of late the evil spirits have taken full possession of his soul, annoy him night and day, drag him out of bed, pull his hair, and play all sorts of capers with his person. So much annoyed has Mr. Wilson been that he determined to invoke the assistance of the police, and, accordingly, he applied at the General Superintendent's office yesterday, praying for relief in the premises. He stated that he thought the spirits came out of the Quaker burying ground, in the rear of his dwelling, and wished the police would come and drive them off. The petitioner appeared perfectly sane, and was greatly disappointed when informed that the police had no power to interfere with any other than intoxicating spirits.

A NEW COUNTERFEIT AFLOAT.—James Collins and Francis McElroy were arrested by policeman Linton, of the Seventeenth precinct, yesterday, on charge of attempting to pass counterfeit money. The prisoners, it is alleged, offered a spurious five dollar bill on the Traders' Bank of Boston, Mass, at the store of Julia A Strakle, No. 41 avenue A; and when the true character of the bill was discovered, they offered another counterfeit of the same denomination on the Commercial Bank of Troy. The policeman was then called in, and the accused were placed in his custody. Justice Brennan committed the prisoners for examination. The counterfeit on the Commercial Bank of Troy is a new one and well calculated to deceive even the best judges of money. The vignette represents a party of laborers at work, with spades, wheelbarrows, pickaxes, &c., as if engaged in grading a railroad. On the right hand side is the coat of arms of the State of New York and the figure 5 On the left is an agricultural scene and a man bearing a sheaf of wheat in his hands. The engraving is well executed and the filling up excellent. Shop keepers should be on the lookout for these bills.

POLICEMAN WIER IN TROUBLE AGAIN.—Martha Wier, wife of ex-policeman Wier, who was dismissed from the department for keeping a disorderly house, known as the "Red, White and Blue," in Canal street, appeared before Justice Brennan, at the Essex Market Police Court, yesterday, and made a complaint against her husband for assault and battery. The complainant stated that she was beaten and abused in a shameful manner, in the presence of two or three hundred persons; also that her husband was in company with a prostitute at the time, who, no doubt, urged him to the commission of the assault. The magistrate ordered a warrant to be issued for the arrest of the accused.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO KILL.—About eight o'clock last evening, a man named Samuel McKee, entered the dining saloon No. 343 Spring street, kept by a man named Samuel Cooper, and immediately commenced an abuse upon Cooper, charging him with having had intercourse with his wife. It was not long before a regular quarrel ensued between both parties, when McKee swore that he would have Cooper's life, and at the same time drew a revolver from his pocket, aiming it at his opponent. Cooper, however, made a spring at McKee, and caught his arm, preventing the discharge of the weapon, when, after a desperate scuffle, the pistol was wrenched from the hands of McKee. Officer Tyler, of the Eighth precinct, being near at hand, was called in, and McKee was conveyed to the station house, where Cooper made a charge against him for assault and battery. He was accordingly locked up for the night. The pistol of McKee was found to be heavily loaded, and on his person was also found a slung shot the size of an egg.

A WOMAN BADLY BEATEN.—Two women, named Julia Quick and Johanna Dommo, were last evening arrested by one of the Eighth ward police, charged with beating Mrs. McDonough at 48 Hamersley street. The woman was so badly injured that a physician had to be called in, who pronounced her to be in a very critical condition. It appears that the women arrested went into Mrs. McDonough's room and commenced using indecent language, when Mrs. McD. ordered them out. This they refused to do, and finally turned upon her and beat her. They were both locked up to answer.

SUSPECTED BURGLARY.—The store of Charles M. Holcombe, 288 Front street, was probably robbed by burglars last night. Officer Delany tried the doors about 8 o'clock, and found them fast, but at 9 o'clock discovered the front door open. Officers Delany and Spatt then examined the premises and found a package, supposed to be silver, marked $50; also $16 in pennies, a check for $50, and other valuable papers, which they conveyed to the Fourth precinct station house and delivered to Sergeant Williams.

The Twelfth Regiment.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Believing that you intend the columns of your valuable journal to be "the very seat of justice," as well as means of public information, I request a limited space to reply to an article in your issue of the 2d inst., under the above caption. A hearing