NATIONAL SANITARY CONVENTION.

Reports of Committees on Quarantine and Internal Hygiene of Cities Adopted—Yellow Fever Declared by the Medical Faculty to be Non-Contagious, &c.

SECOND DAY.

The National Quarantine and Sanitary Convention, which was organized on Wednesday at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, met on Thursday morning, and after some routine business was disposed of the report of the Committee on Quarantine, which was submitted at the previous session, was called up for action. Drs. McNulty, Guthrie, Kemp, Griscom and others took part in the discussion, some of the speakers being in favor of abolishing Quarantine altogether, affirming that all that was necessary to protect cities from contagious diseases was a rigid enforcement of sanitary regulations, while a portion of the Convention believed that defective as our Quarantine systems are, they are the means of protecting populous cities from the dreadful pestilence.

Mayor Roman, of Providence, considered the report of the committee objectionable in many of its features, and earnestly hoped that the committee would not adopt it rashly. He (Mr. R.) said that after a perusal of the report there would not be a city legislative body who would not unanimously say that, as it was the deliberate opinion of the leading medical men of the United States assembled in convention that Quarantine should be abolished, they would proceed at once to break down the barriers which prevent contagious disease spreading throughout our leading cities. In the name of humanity, he asked them if they were willing to adopt such a report as the one before them without amendment?

Dr. Kemp admitted that the language alluded to was stronger than the committee intended to use. He read the proof sheets in a hurry and the objectionable paragraph was overlooked.

After considerable conversation

Dr. James R. Wood moved that the report be referred back to the committee with instructions to report at the next session of the Convention, which was carried unanimously.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention met at a quarter to eight, pursuant to adjournment, and after the minutes of the afternoon session were read and approved, a committee was appointed to investigate W. A. Royce's plan of compressing and refrigerating the atmosphere preliminary to its use in disinfecting vessels; also, to investigate new plans of tenement houses, submitted by Mr. Metton.

Dr. Clark, of Boston, who was appointed by the Baltimore Convention to draw up a form of a code regulating the internal sanitary condition of cities, as a basis for the present Convention to act upon, submitted a draft of a code, which he said, if adopted in substance, could afterwards be submitted to the Legislatures of the various States to be altered to suit the laws and circumstances of each State.

The document gave rise to a lengthy and interesting discussion, some of the delegates believing that the proper mode to present the subject to Legislatures would be in the form of propositions, instead of drawing up a code like the one presented by the committee.

General Wetmore, of New York, made an eloquent speech on the importance of internal sanitary reform. He alluded to the misgovernment of this city in relation to its sanitary condition, and strongly advocated the appointment of a sanitary police.

Dr. Griscom followed in the same strain; after which

Dr. Kemp, of Baltimore, gave a graphic description of the manner in which the sanitary regulations of that city are carried out. The Board of Health consists of three physicians, appointed by the Mayor, and are held responsible for the health of the city. They have the power to remove everything that would in any way prejudice the public health, and he attributed the efficiency of their government in that respect and the healthiness of the city to the centralization of the power invested in the Board of Health.

As it was now nearly 10½ o'clock, on motion, further discussion on the subject was postponed till Friday morning, to which time the Convention adjourned. Previous to which, however, they accepted an invitation, tendered by the New York Common Council, to a municipal banquet at the Metropolitan Hotel on Friday evening.

THIRD DAY.

The Convention met on Friday morning at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and after reading the minutes of the previous meeting,

The President said the first business in order would be the consideration of a resolution submitted on Thursday by Dr. Stevens, which is as follows:—"In the absence of any evidence establishing the conclusions that yellow fever has ever been conveyed by one person to another, it is the opinion of this Convention that personal quarantine of cases of yellow fever may be safely abolished."

Dr. Stevens said his object in proposing the resolution was, if possible, to settle a principle by which future quarantines should be guided. His reflections and experience had shown him that yellow fever was not a high grade of bilious fever, as contended for by Dr. Rush, neither was it a communicable fever, nor capable of personal communication, as contended for by some distinguished medical men.

Dr. Bell, of Brooklyn, gave an interesting statement of the symptoms of yellow fever in Southern latitudes. He believed that it was not contagious anywhere, for he had slept in a room with patients and did not contract the disease.

Dr. Francis, on rising to address the Convention, was received with loud applause, and proceeded to relate his experience in reference to yellow fever for the last half century. He believed that the provisions made from time to time by the legislative authority of the State, and the suggestions of medical men, had been prolific of great benefit; and as New York was the first that established quarantine regulations, he hoped she would not be the first to abandon them altogether. He thought that the medical men of this country generalized too much, and there was a tendency in the American mind to come to a general conclusion on one or two isolated facts, which rendered us ridiculous before the studious scientific world. The venerable Doctor maintained that yellow fever was a specific disease. It had its own laws and its own peculiar mode of treatment, and never had there been a case of yellow fever springing from local causes. In reference to the subject of quarantine, he said we had pretty bad managers in those establishments, as well as in our medical police, and that there was a great deal of political fraud in the administration of the laws on that matter, but he believed it would be impolitic and wrong to adopt the resolution under consideration.

Dr. Stevens renewed his motion, hoping that, as no facts existed going to show that yellow fever was personally contagious, it would be unanimously adopted.

Dr. Bell proposed to amend the resolution by adding thereto these words—"Provided that fomites of every kind be rigidly restricted," which amendment was accepted by Dr. Stevens. The speaker went on to show that the history of the cases of yellow fever tended to establish indisputably that it was not contagious.

The subject was discussed at great length by the medical portion of the Convention, and, with one or two exceptions, they were all in favor of the adoption of the resolution.

Joseph Bunt, of New York, said he thought that the subject should be referred and considered at the next session of the Convention. Although the medical men might be prepared to vote in favor of its adoption, the lay delegates were not prepared to vote understandingly upon the subject.

Dr. Stevens corrected an impression which some members of the Convention were laboring under, that his resolution was in favor of doing away with Quarantine. He would rather make Quarantine more strict than it is now as it regarded fomites; but if they could separate persons from things, every practical man who has had to do with yellow fever would vote for the adoption of his resolution.

Mayor Roman asked the medical gentlemen how should the mayors of large cities act if it was reported to them that there lay in the river a vessel from an infected district? Ought they to permit the passengers to go on shore after changing their garments?

Several voices responded—"Yes, let them come."

The resolution as amended was finally adopted by a vote of 70 to 4.

The report of the Committee on Quarantine, which was referred to the Business Committee for reconsideration and amendment, was then returned by Dr. Kemp, who said that, as there was only a minority of the committee in attendance, they did not feel authorized to correct the report, but they were of opinion that the Convention had the power to expunge any objectionable paragraph in it.

The subjoined resolutions were presented, and recommended for adoption:—

Resolved, That the operations of Quarantine should not be confined to the warm months of the year, inasmuch as a vessel arriving in midwinter with smallpox or typhus fever on board is as legitimate a subject for Quarantine as one arriving in midsummer.

Resolved, That the adoption by all commercial nations of a sound and well digested code of marine hygiene, and all the necessary measures for insuring its strict enforcement, would tend greatly to alleviate the evils of the present system of Quarantine to promote the health and comfort of passengers and crews.

These resolutions were adopted.

Dr. Reid offered the following resolution:—

That a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to draw up a set of rules or regulations as a basis for nautical hygiene and Quarantine regulations of the United States; and that the said rules and regulations, so far as is possible, comprehend appropriate adaptations to the climatic conditions of the different States and ports of entry of the United States. Adopted.

Dr. Stevens presented this resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to report, at the next meeting of this Convention, specific recommendations of principles and measures of Quarantine as severally applicable to yellow fever, cholera, typhus fever and smallpox, having reference also to the variations which different localities require.

The report of the Committee on Internal Hygiene of Cities, which was laid over last evening, was then taken up, when the draft of an act for establishing general and local boards of health, and for other sanitary purposes, was recommended as a model for the Legislatures of the several States to adopt, subject to their respective laws. It suggests the propriety of establishing a general board of health, composed of five persons, three of whom shall be physicians, and proposes to establish local boards of health, who shall be empowered to enforce all the regulations they deem necessary for promoting the sanitary condition of towns and cities, subject to the constitution and laws of the State and the authority of the General Board of Health.

The draft of an ordinance for promoting the health of towns, consisting of sixty-one sections, was discussed and adopted. This was an exceedingly able document, and will be published in the official report of the proceedings.

On motion, all the papers appended to the reports of the committees were ordered to be printed as a part of the record of the proceedings of the Convention, without endorsing the statements set forth by the respective contributors, only so far as the Convention has considered the subjects presented for discussion.

Dr. Harris presented the following report of the Business Committee:—

Whereas, the sanitary and economical interests of cities and large towns are directly and in a very important manner affected by the quality and condition of the various articles of food and facilities for supplying the same; and whereas there are various other agencies and conditions incident on civic life which exert a direct and important influence upon the public and personal hygiene, and which, in our opinion, fall within the scope and functions of municipal and State regulation and control; therefore

Resolved, That we recommend to the Convention that committees be appointed to investigate and report upon each of the following subjects at the next Sanitary and Quarantine Convention:—First, a committee of three members to report upon food, its qualities and conditions in cities and large towns, and the facilities requisite for supplying the same, together with plans and suggestions for the proper arrangement for butcheries, markets and *abattoirs*; second, a committee of six members upon civic cleanliness, with plans for the disposition of offal, refuse, street cleanings and night soil of cities; third, that a committee of three members be appointed to report upon the legal restrictions for the control of the sale of poisonous and dangerous drugs; fourth, that a committee of three members be appointed to report upon architectural improvements, with reference to personal and public hygiene.

The report was received and the recommendations adopted.

Mr. Wetmore, of New York, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Whereas, the proper carrying out of a system of drainage and sewerage in all incorporated cities is of necessity in the hands of the properly constituted authorities, and as a consequence under the control of private citizens; therefore

Resolved, as the sense of this Convention, That the responsibility for all diseases and deaths caused by imperfect drainage or defective sewerage rests upon the corporate authorities of cities, and it is earnestly recommended to the authorities of cities to thoroughly investigate and provide prompt remedies for the evils arising out of these causes.

Dr. Jewett, of Philadelphia, in a communication to the Convention, submitted the subjoined resolutions, which were adopted:—

Resolved, That the President and Secretary of this Convention and one member from each State, represented by a committee, lay before the Smithsonian Institution or Congress the comprehensive reports that have been adopted on external and internal hygiene, in order to secure their influence and approval, and thereby obtain for them the widest possible circulation throughout the commercial and inland cities of these United States.

Resolved, That on the event of the above object having been secured, said committee be instructed to prepare a circular or an address setting forth the advantages of State medicine to each State separately, and its several municipal corporations as well as the cities at large, urging upon them to secure by legislative enactments, laws and regulations, founded upon such scientific principles as shall best promote the physical welfare of the people, and that it further recommend the appointment of a standing committee for each State, whose duty it shall be to institute an accurate sanitary survey of the State, its counties, its towns and its localities, to ascertain the causes which favorably or unfavorably affect the health of its inhabitants.

Governor Morgan, who was announced to be temporarily in the city, was duly elected a member of the Convention.

On motion of Dr. Ayre, the thanks of the Convention were tendered to the municipal authorities, and to the citizens generally, for the courtesies extended to them during their brief stay in the city.

After the transaction of some other unimportant business, the Convention adjourned to meet on Saturday morning at nine o'clock. The Convention will probably finally adjourn in the afternoon.

Dinner by the Common Council to the Delegates to the Quarantine and Sanitary Conventions.

The Common Council of New York entertained the delegates to the Quarantine and Sanitary Convention, now in session in this city, at the Metropolitan Hotel last evening, at a splendid banquet. Precisely at seven o'clock the company, numbering about 250, entered the dining room, to the delightful music of Dodworth's band. His honor Mayor Tiemann took the chair. Among the numerous guests were Joseph Mayo, Mayor of Richmond, Va.; W. M. Rodman, Mayor of Providence, Rhode Island; Moses Bigelow, Mayor of Newark, N. J.; F. W. Lincoln, Mayor of Boston; D. S. Gregory, Mayor of Jersey City; Senator C. V. Clickener; Dr. Griscom, President of the Sanitary Convention; Dr. W. M. Kemp, of Baltimore; Dr. Miller, Peter Cooper, Dr. C. B. Guthrie, Dr. R. La Roche. At the head table, also, sat a representation of the Managing Committee of the Common Council, including Alderman Boole, D. T. Valentine, Wm. Lambier, Jr., and others, while members of both boards of the Council occupied seats throughout the room, together with several members of the medical faculty and other professions. Among others we noticed Henry O'Reilly, of telegraph notoriety; John F. Callan, of Washington, Clerk of the Senate Military Committee; Gen. Wetmore, and others.

It is unnecessary to state that the tables were served in an unexceptionable manner, with all possible delicacies and wines of the choicest brands, such being the accustomed fashion at the Metropolitan, though on the present occasion the dinner was got up on two day's notice. On the removal of the cloth, at which period the sanitary condition of the company might be set down as excellent, the mayor proposed to give the regular toasts in the following order:—

1. The great public questions involved in the assembling of a Sanitary Convention—The health, morals, happiness, and lives of the people.
2. The states of the Union represented in the Convention—Honor to those engaged in so laudable a cause.
3. The Municipal Authorities of the City of New York—Always desirous to extend their hospitalities to sister cities.
4. Medical Science.
5. The City of Philadelphia—First in the cause of sanitary reform—Other cities she was the first to declare the birth of an independent nation.
6. Baltimore—The Youthful Giant of the South—As ready to follow in the lead of science as to take her place in the ranks of enterprising and prosperous cities.
7. Boston—The Cradle of Liberty—In the older times a pattern to her sisters—now, in the perfect system of her government.
8. Providence—Her success in preventing disease and preserving the health of her people justifies the name she bears.
9. Norfolk—A name which has become a proverb for the public spirit of her citizens, and the life sacrificing devotion of the medical profession in the dark hours of disease and death.
10. The district of Columbia—A centre in our national constellation. May the light of sanitary science radiate throughout the Union.
11. Canada—Our neighbor and competitor in the busy pursuits of commerce, yet always fraternizing with us in science and letters, and the arts of peace, to whom I am grateful.
12. The Cities of Newark and Wilmington—Ardent participators in the great work of protecting and prolonging human life.
13. The Cities of Mobile and Memphis—Less favored by climate and attending circumstances than their more Northern sisters; their devotion to the cause of medical science is an earnest of their determination to conquer disease and preserve life.
14. Woman—That portion of the human family which most deserves and best appreciates the aid of medical science and the offices of kindness.

The Mayor, in proposing the first toast, said that the Common Council invited the delegates of the Sanitary Convention to a banquet this evening to testify their appreciation of the value of the medical profession. He would not make a speech, for he was a worker, not a speaker, and he would therefore give the toast without further preliminary remarks.

Dr. Griscom responded, alluding to the importance of sanitary labors; for he said the causes of bad health and bad morals are the same. One resolution adopted at the Convention that day would, he predicted, astonish the public when it was spread before them. In reference to the sanitary condition of great cities, he mentioned the curious fact that while New York had a population of 160,000 more population than Philadelphia, the latter city had 30,000 more houses than New York.

To the second toast Mayor Mayo, of Richmond, responded, paying a high compliment in amusing terms to Mayor Tiemann. He had never a lancet in his hand, and knew nothing of a pestle and mortar, yet, though not a physician, he rejoiced to see any portion of his fellow citizens engaged in so noble a cause as the Sanitary Convention, and he congratulated the Convention on the resolution they adopted that day with reference to Quarantine. From his experience in Richmond and Norfolk, he was satisfied that yellow fever was not a contagious disease. He dwelt on the fact that public health was the best preventive against public crime. With a cordial recognition of the hospitality he had received at the hands of Mayor Tiemann, he concluded by giving the health of the Mayor, who responded very briefly, offering a hearty welcome to the delegates, whom he said he would always be glad to see.

To the third toast Alderman McSorron responded in behalf of the Common Council of New York. He regretted that the early adjournment of the Convention prevented the authorities of the city from showing the members the institutions under their control.

At the request of the Chairman, General P. M. Wetmore read the fourth toast, prefacing it with a few remarks highly laudatory of the medical profession, the members of which, he said, received less applause and less reward than that of any other which labored so much in the cause of humanity. He illustrated this by an allusion to the army and navy surgeons, who, though they took a dangerous and honorable position in battle, were never mentioned in the records of fame. With an eloquent eulogium on science in all its branches, he concluded amid much applause, referring to the fact that the words uttered there that night, would, by the science of the representatives of the press then present, be spread before the whole world to morrow morning. (Applause.) The speaker finished by paying a delicate compliment to Dr. Francis, Dr. Stevens, and many other well known medical gentlemen. He hoped that the gentlemen of the Common Council would be better instructed in future on sanitary questions from the company they had associated with on this occasion. (Laughter and cheers.) Dr. Stevens, being loudly called on, replied very happily, saying that he was more accustomed to the tete a tetes of the sick bed and the whisperings of the cradle than addresses to popular assemblages. He continued by dilating upon the connection of science and art, and acknowledged the debt which medical and surgical science owed to the mechanical arts.

W. L. Bladen was called on to speak to the fifth toast—the City of Philadelphia—but he very handsomely declined in a few words, and called on Professor Wood to respond. That gentleman then spoke briefly, claiming the favor of the company for addressing them without preparation.

Dr. Kemp, of Baltimore, responded to the sixth toast, referring to the growth of his native city, and the part she and the State of Maryland played in the Revolution—and acknowledging the compliment paid to Baltimore in the toast which called her the youthful giant of the South. Dr. Potter, of Baltimore, was the first man who announced that yellow fever was not contagious from person to person—an opinion which the Convention had adopted that day. He referred, amid much applause, to the fact that when yellow fever was decimating Norfolk, Baltimore freely and fearlessly opened her doors to the victims.

Mayor Lincoln, of Boston, replied to the seventh toast, apologizing for the condition of his health.

Mayor Roman, of Providence, replied to the next toast eloquently, and amid much applause, referring to the speech of Dr. Francis at the session of the Sanitary Convention that morning, and concluded by offering the toast—"The City of New York—the commercial heart of the commonality; may it ever pulsate to all that honors virtue, dignity and truth." (Applause.)

Mr. Wheeler, of Norfolk, responded to the next toast.

To the toast of "The District of Columbia," Mr. J. F. Callan, of Washington, responded in short but very appropriate terms.

General Mather answered in terms part humorous and part serious to the eleventh toast. Dr. Reid followed to the same toast.

Dr. Parkhurst, of Newark, N. J., spoke to the twelfth toast, and Dr. Wilson, of Wilmington, Del., followed in behalf of his own State. To the thirteenth toast, "The cities of Mobile and Memphis," Dr. Darby, of Mobile, and Dr. Guthrie, of Memphis, responded—the latter gentleman's speech being sensible and patriotic, and loudly applauded. Dr. Mayo, the Mayor of Richmond, on the call of the Chairman, followed in the same patriotic terms, in favor of union and fraternity among the States of the confederacy; a toning amid much enthusiasm to Virginia, as the native place of Washington, and the mother of statesmen, and paying a worthy compliment to General Scott, as a soldier and a patriot.

The last regular toast, "Woman," was responded to by Dr. Snow.

The regular toasts having been concluded, Alderman McSpedon took the chair, and several volunteer toasts were proposed, and the festivities continued to a late hour.

The Southern Democratic Platform.

SOUTHERN RIGHTS OR DISUNION THE ISSUE.

At a meeting of the democracy held in Montgomery, Ala., on the 23d instant, the following resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved, That the only general party organization which professes to respect the rights of the South in negro property is the democratic party; that the overthrow of that time honored party will insure the triumph of the black republicans, under whose rule it is impossible for the Southern people to live without moral degradation and imminent peril to social order; and that, therefore, it is, we believe, the imperative duty of every patriot to labor zealously for the success of democratic nominees and the carrying out of democratic principles in the administration of the federal government.

Resolved, That the great fundamental article of the creed of the democratic party in the perfect equality of the sovereign States in rights and privileges, immunities and honors, and the indispensable complement to such a preamble as this is the right of each State to annul the compact of confederation whenever it shall solemnly deem the same incompatible with its liberty or honor.

Resolved, That the citizens of the Southern States are entitled to the amplest protection of their property, of all kinds, in the States and Territories of the United States and upon the high seas, and that the failure of the Federal Government to give such protection will justify the Southern States in throwing off such government.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the South insists simply upon the observance of her constitutional rights, any compromise legislation upon these rights must simply yield something upon the part of the South, without gaining anything; and therefore we are unalterably opposed to any further compromise of the issue of slavery, and will be satisfied with no less than a full and distinct recognition of our constitutional rights whenever made the subject of congressional legislation.

Resolved, That we have read with amazement and indignation the declarations made by leading Northern Democratic Senators, in the Senate of the United States, that not a man will be found at the North to support the claim of the South to protection of the government, and against an act of the Territorial Legislature, either abolishing slavery or destroying it by hostile legislation—

And in reply we here proclaim our unalterable determination to demand this protection from the government, and that when our plain constitutional rights are violated, and find no protection in this government, we will use our best endeavors to withdraw from that government the powers which it perverts to our injury; and following the example and adopting the principles of our ancestry of 1776, we will "institute a new government, laying its foundations on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to us shall seem most likely to effect our safety and happiness."

Resolved, That we are opposed to all schemes for the building of a railroad to the Pacific with the funds of the general government.

Resolved, That we are opposed to a tariff discrimination for protection and opposed to specific duties.

A Sentimental Suicide.

We derive the touching facts recorded below from the Dayton (O.) *Journal*. Our hand trembles as we make up the sad record:—

On Wednesday last a "good looking and well dressed" man appeared at the Phillips House, in the fragrant and lovely city of Dayton, and registered his name "A. V. Lamartine." Sweet name, isn't it? We think we would love a man on sight who enjoyed the happiness of such a name. And if we should hear that the initials A. V. stood for Albert Victor (as in this case they actually did—fact!) our emotions would have been, to say the least, strong. His handwriting was "very handsome." He was assigned an apartment. Presently the clerk was terrified by receiving the following epistle:—

PHILLIPS HOUSE, ROOM 24.

TO THE CLERK:—DEAR SIR—I am very unwell, and do not expect to recover; will you be so kind as to send for a minister to come to my room. I care not of which denomination so he is a true Christian, and a pious man. Yours respectfully,

A. V. LAMARTINE.

Gracious, what a sensation there was! The Dayton *Journal* don't half do the pathetic the case called for. Wasn't there "pale lips," "pallid brows," "hurrying to and fro?" Rev. Mr. Conrad boards at the house (Phillips) and was called in at once. The amiable young gentleman told him that he had taken poison. A sagacious doctor (Dr. Davis), who also boards at the Phillips, told Lamartine that he had taken laudanum. Lamartine owned to the laudanum, and "showed the bottle." Somehow the doctor didn't think Mr. Lamartine had killed himself, and would not give him any emetic, and bless you, Mr. Lamartine didn't die.

But there was a letter on his table addressed—to whom do you think? Why, "To the Unfeeling World." That's you. Here is the document:—

PHILLIPS HOUSE, April 18, 1859.

TO THE UNFEELING WORLD:—Call me not a self murderer, for it is you that has driven me to this extremity. The public is my murderer, for it has denied me business, and without that I should be cast upon the world—a beggar. God forbid! Quite out of funds, and no business, what am I to do. To beg? No, I am too refined for my fellow man. No my conscience will not permit me. Death, then, is a welcome expedient. Yes, let me die and be forgotten. Like poor Byron, "I do not regret what I have done so much as what I might have done." I have been an easy going, melancholy man—engrossed with books and not with money—"loving a man like this, but naught else save my infinite nativity—Cleveland my adopted home. As my name indicates I am of French extraction. My family was good, and I tenderly raised. I am an orphan—few relations. Bury me here, and should I ever have a tomb let this be my epitaph:—

"Far from home, in a land of strangers, he died—preferring death to dishonor."

Broken hearted Herbert, gallant and immortal Rush, pathetic McClung, (who sung—"O, death! come soon!") I leave this cold, selfish ball of corruption and depravity to join you. I have had this in my mind for some time. I have many warm friends, to whom I tender a last and final adieu. I have received attentions from the best of them, to whom I am grateful. As to death, I am not afraid to die. I never was calmer than now. I could write much more, but I will stop. One word, however, the last I shall ever write—"Agnes"

ALBERT VICTOR LAMARTINE.

And this letter caused feeling in behalf of the fellow. He was kindly taken care of and $25 and a railroad pass to Indianapolis were presented him. And presently it was ascertained that the fellow had taken poison at Sandusky, where $40 and a pass to Dayton had resulted.

A Suspicious Character in Custody in Chicago.

A SPECIMEN OF THE LITERATURE OF THE SWELL MOB.

A few days since, says the Chicago *Tribune* of the 26th inst., Marshal Rehm ascertained that a mechanic of this city had received an order for a pair of nippers, such as are used only by the burglar profession. After a little dexterous shadowing, the party ordering the same was arrested and taken to the Marshal's office, and upon being searched the nippers were found, as well as several pawn tickets, showing that he was "dead broke," as the letter below shows. It was ascertained that his name is Charles Williams alias Charles Morth, who was sent from here two years ago to Alton, to serve out a term of one year for stealing a watch, and was also identified as the individual who a short time ago called at the Post Office for a letter addressed to Miss M. Thompson, and was unable to get the same, not having an order. The same letter was taken out by a Miss M. Thompson—not the Miss T.—who showed it to a friend, and thence it fell into the hands of the police. We insert it as a curiosity of literature—the literature of the cracksmen.

The following is a copy of the letter, with one or two omissions:—

ELGIN, March 14, 1859.

DEAREST FANNIE—The reception of your last afforded me more enjoyment than "a fast trick" (thieves' slang for making a good raise), although one would not come amiss at the present time, for the seventy "cases" (dollars) I took in a "jug" (a bank) is nearly gone * * * I will send you some "flimsy" (counterfeit paper), but do not "shove" it in Chicago, but meet me at the tomb on the 1st of April at night, for I cannot meet you before. * * * Bo. and his "moll" (female pickpocket) has gone to York, taking with them thirty "centuries" (a century is a term for $100). I hear that Charlie W——s is in Chicago, flat broke. If you should see him give him some "queer" (counterfeit money). Remember what I tell you about the "stuff" (counterfeit money), for, Fannie, I do not want you to "hold" and "shove" at the same time, and there is no one in Chicago I would trust with the "stuff." Do not answer this until I write again, as I am "spotted" and am going South. Luck and chance brought me here, and I will leave tomorrow. I direct this to your New York name, as your other might be checked in Chicago. Be sure and find Charlie, and believe me your true and ever faithful lover.

CHARLIE.

Lib. Sec——k is "copped" to night (arrested on a sure thing), in New Orleans, and thinks she will "go for a five stretch" (State prison five years), as her "fancy" is played out and can do but little in "sweet talk" and "brass." She is as beautiful as ever, but not equal to the blue eyes and dark brown hair of a certain girl in the Garden City. Good night, Fannie, and remember the first. * * *

Williams was brought before Justice Aken yesterday morning, and plead guilty, and was committed, in default of $500, for trial at the next term of the Recorder's Court.

THE SALE OF ANTIOCH COLLEGE EXPLAINED.—We mentioned yesterday the fact that Antioch College was sold at auction on Wednesday afternoon. The College, as our readers probably know, has been for a long time heavily embarrassed, and efforts have been made to free it from the debts by which it was encumbered. It was found, however, that the numerous scholarships which existed there were a dead weight upon the institution, and that it could not be upon a permanent basis until these scholarships were removed. To get rid of them and the old charter, the sale of Wednesday was had. The institution was bought by Mr. M. Cummings, of New York, the agent of Francis A. Palmer, who had a heavy claim upon the College. He has, however, transferred it to its old friends, who will organize it forthwith, free from debt, under a new charter, which secures its control to the "Christian denomination" forever, and forbids the corporations incurring debt. The conduct of Mr. Palmer in connection with this sale is noble and disinterested. He had taken up sundry obligations that amounted nearly to, in the aggregate, $26,000. This part of the College debt was to be met by subscriptions from the West, while the East was expected to raise $4,000. The East did its part, and raised the money; but from the affluent West there came only $2,500. Of course, when the Male cause, the friends of the College were unable to buy it. Mr. Palmer's agent, as we said, purchased, and subsequently transferred it to the new company—relinquishing, as we learn, his heavy claim.—*Cincinnati Gazette, April 22.*

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF ITALY.

Lecture by Signor G Gajani, at the Cooper Institute.

Pursuant to public announcement, a highly interesting and instructive lecture on the present condition of Italian affairs was delivered in the Italian language on Thursday evening last, at the Cooper Institute, by Signor Guglielmo Gajani, before the members of the Italian Society of New York, entitled "Unione e Fratellanza" (Union and Brotherhood). A considerable number of other citizens were also present, and the room in which the discourse was delivered was occupied in every part.

At the hour appointed for the lecture to begin,

Signor GAJANI came forward amid loud and enthusiastic cheers. He began by saying that about ten years ago, in the month of April, 1849, a league of Spain, Austria and France was entered into for the express purpose of putting down the Roman republic and trampling under foot the efforts of the brave and patriotic men who devotedly sought to make their country free. The purpose they sought to serve in thus operating against the Roman republic, was to restore the Papacy and to perpetuate the wrongs of Italy. (Cheers.) But the Italians stood to their arms, and continued to battle for their country and their freedom as a protest against the usurpations and unholy interference of these European nations to crush the young republic which was opening into life with such promises for the future. But although they bravely resisted, they could not withstand the combination which was made against them. The Italians were brave, patriotic and able to fight for liberty and independence, but they could not be expected to be able to conquer the opposition of all Europe. Yet whenever there was an opportunity they would continue to struggle for their freedom from tyranny and oppression, and they will ever trouble the peace of Europe, and ever be a thorn in the side of European peace, until their national independence be acknowledged and recognized. (Loud cheers.) This was the true aim of Italian agitation—this was what her patriots fought for—this was what her sons aspired to—for this so many of her martyrs had died. (Cheers.) Sismondi had truly said that there will be no peace for Europe until Italy is independent and free. This fact had been virtually proved again and again. The slavery of Italy was the cause of the present agitation in Europe. The Congress of Vienna, by condemning Italy to division, established a cause of personal trouble and commotion. Division was not what could tend to make a country free, but rather the closest union and fraternity. (Loud cheers.) The union and independence of Italy could alone insure freedom to her and peace to Europe. (Cheers.) Napoleon the First had said that in fifty years from the time at which he spoke all Europe would be either republican or Cossack. But Cossack it could not be; and if the prophesy is to be fulfilled it must be in favor of catholic republicanism. (Applause.) Another move towards this developement will be the freedom of Italy, and if the other nations of Europe do not consent to give to Italy that freedom for which she now pants and struggles, one of the most dreadful wars that ever convulsed the world will follow, and the sufferings of Europe will be intense and terrible. (Cheers.) He felt firm in the belief that the day-star of Italian liberty was rising high above the clouds of wrong and oppression, and his heart told him that he would yet see the great, glorious and free Italy redeemed by the warm blood of her martyrs. (Loud cheers.) This was the way in which Italian liberty was to be consecrated, and this was what the sons of Italy desired. This was seen in the enthusiasm of the people when the cry of liberty was raised and the banner of free Italy was given to the breeze. What would have been more universal than the enthusiasm which prevailed in Rome in 1849? It was the enthusiasm of a free people contending against great odds, and there was no greater bane to those who were in usurped power. The attitude of France in respect to Italy should not be lost sight of nor disguised. Since the French invasion of Rome, the true inclinations of that government were discovered. The French were still in Rome, and their intentions still the same. He had no faith in any of the pretensions of Louis Napoleon. Judging from his former acts, he saw nothing to convince him that the Emperor of the French can ever feel any real interest in the emancipation of Italy. Probably he (the lecturer) would have reason to repent of his judgment, but still he was bound to assert the fact that he could not trust Napoleon. So far from France having any interest to see Italy a free and independent nationality, it better served her purpose to see the country divided into a multiplicity of independent States. This was the political testament of Count St. Aulaire, and Louis Napoleon will not swerve from this creed. But the liberty of Italy was certain, without his intervention or aid. But all this opposition of European nations would eventually have to give way before the determined enthusiasm and free spirit of the Italians themselves. The contest with France on the invasion of Rome was sufficient to prove this to the world, for where could there have been a nobler or more animating sight than that presented in Rome in 1849, when a small nation like the Italians—oppressed and single handed, whose sons had never drawn the sword from its scabbard to engage a foreign foe since the year 1527—engaging a mighty nation like the French, and disputing with them foot by foot for the freedom of their country and the heritage of their fathers? (Tumultuous applause.) And yet that battle fought by the Italians with the soldiers of Napoleon in the streets of Rome was not the last, nor could it be the last, for the French were still in Italy, and there never can be independence for her until the last of the foreigners, and the Pope, will more a foreigner than them all, shall have crossed the Alps, and left Italy to her freedom and independence. (Cheers.) The question of most interest at the present time was the freedom of Italy; and this not a national freedom, through the exertions of European nations, but to see her assuming her independence without the aid of any of the nations of Europe. The Italians must depend on themselves for their political and national regeneration, and not on those whose interest it was to prevent her from obtaining national freedom. Besides, the nations of Europe had enough to do to preserve their own nationalities. The lecturer then proceeded to review the position of the several nations of Europe. Russia was wanting in finance, and her designs were more against Austria than in favor of Italy. Prussia was not to be decided on for liberating Italy. The interest of France was to prevent her freedom. England, since the Crimean war, could scarcely be said to have recovered herself before she had to contend with the formidable Indian rebellion in the East. And Austria, with her bad finances, and the threats of war which encircle her, was in anything but a comfortable position. Italy could afford to laugh at the pretensions which are made in her behalf by the nations, just as the English laughed at the poor Chinese who thought that on their arrival in China they could civilize the invaders by painting serpents and dragons on their banners. The lecturer continued at some length to show that all the commotions that have risen from time to time and which are now agitating Europe, must tend to the enfranchisement of Italy from the bondage under which she has suffered so long, and concluded by earnestly and eloquently urging the Italians to look forward with hope and joy to the day, now near at hand, that is to give to their country that liberty now denied her, and to fulfil to the uttermost extent the doctrine of their society of union and true brotherhood.

The most rapturous applause, enduring for several minutes, followed the close of the oration, amid which there were distinctly heard fervent cries of "Amen—amen."

Great Bank Defalcation in St. Louis.

$53,000 ABSTRACTED FROM THE SOUTHERN BANK BY THE TELLER, MR. ATHERTON.

(From the St. Louis Democrat, April 27.)

This community was greatly surprised on yesterday to hear that the cash account of George O. Atherton, teller of the Southern Bank of this city, was short to the amount of several thousand dollars. Mr. Atherton was for many years a clerk in the old State Bank, has been a teller in the Southern ever since its organization, and has been generally known to this community as a man of strict integrity. Since his arrest he acknowledges that he has been appropriating to himself a portion of the deposits of the bank for some time past, until the amount of his abstractions has reached the sum of $53,000.

In a full confession of the whole matter he has told what he has done with the money. He says he had loaned it, or the greater part of it, $47,000, to Raynor & Co., of this city, of which firm his brother-in law is a member.

We understand the bank has taken extra securities, which, together with the bonds, will be amply sufficient, it is thought, to cover all losses.

The manner of this defalcation and the mode of concealment adopted are new and ingenious. Mr. Atherton, when he desired to abstract money, would put both the deposit ticket and money in its private drawer, so that the deposit ticket, not being on file, the bookkeeper of course could not enter on the ledger that amount.

These discrepancies between the depositors' bank book and the individual ledger could not be found out until the bank book was sent to be balanced, when Mr. A., always on the look out for those pass books, would make out a deposit ticket for the amount he had retained on that account, and put it on the file to be credited.

But in doing this he would put in his drawer the deposit ticket of some other depositor of that day. In this way he took money and used them, which he never allowed to be credited to the parties until there was a necessity for it to save exposure. We are glad to know that the amount is no larger and that the bank is well secured.

This affair had not affected nor will it affect the standing of the bank, which is deservedly a popular institution and is managed by men of the first business qualification.

At about ten o'clock on Monday night, the President, Cashier and several of the directors of the bank called at the police office and desired aid in securing the person of one of their tellers, whose name they declined to give, but whom they accused of having embezzled the bank's funds to a large extent—to what amount they also declined stating. They were apprehensive that the guilty man was about leaving the city, if, indeed, he had not already escaped. Captain Fealy, of the Night Guard, at once dispatched Sergeant Moore, officer O'Leary and the private watchman of the Southern Bank, to the residence designated as that of the teller, on Biddle street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth streets. The private watchman was sent to identify the person to be arrested, while a policeman was placed on patrol at the Bank, which is on Pine street, near Main street.

The residence, an elegant three story edifice, was found wrapped in silence and darkness, and with the doors fastened. An application for admission occasioned evident alarm, as the windows above opened and closed, and no other immediate response was given. A noise was heard as of some person attempting to leave the premises, and Sergeant Moore entered the yard, where he found a person whom he knew not to be the accused, but who is his brother-in-law. The door was at length opened, and George O. Atherton was pointed out as the victim of his folly and crime. He sat writing at a table. The officers thought they perceived evidences of a preparation on his part to leave. Their unwelcome entrance had also to be endured by Mrs. Atherton, who sank powerless into her chair, beneath the crushing infliction. He was conducted to the Police office, where he gave his name, and made an apparently unreserved acknowledgment of his guilt.

Yesterday he waived the preliminary examination before the committing magistrate, and was placed in jail, to come forth and plead guilty at the bar of the Criminal Court.

The event recalls the mysterious fire at the Missouri State Bank, on Main street, above a year ago. Atherton was then engaged there, and was left writing at a late hour in the office. The origin of the fire was never satisfactorily explained; nor do we know that serious suspicion attached to Atherton on that occasion.

Our Buffalo Correspondence.

BUFFALO, April 27, 1859.

The Herald in the Provinces—Curious Custom in the Theatre—The Herald as an Entr-acte.

In the course of some extended travels through the Northern, Eastern and Western States, as well as the Atlantic seaboard, as far as Charleston, I have been surprised and pleased at the facilities offered for the pur