THE SOUTH.

Reports of the Special Correspondents of the Herald.

LAW AND POLITICS IN VIRGINIA.

ONEROUS NATURE OF THE TOBACCO TAX.

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VIRGINIA.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

W. Porcher Miles, of South Carolina, in Richmond—Important Cases in the Federal and State Courts—"Beware of the Yankees" a Head Line for Southern Copy Books—Virginia in Rags—Embarrassment of Distillers—Indifference as to the President and His Escort.

RICHMOND, June 7, 1867.

Wm. Porcher Miles, formerly member of Congress from South Carolina, has been on a visit to this city for some days. He was the guest of Wm. H. Macfarland, with whom he is connected by marriage. Mr. Miles has been residing in Monroe county, West Virginia, with his father-in-law, Mr. Oliver Byrnes, since the close of the war, and expresses his purpose to make Virginia his future home. He was a member of the Confederate Congress during the war, occupying the important position of Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs of the House of Representatives. He seems very despondent as to the future of the South, and regards the position of a Southern representative in Congress a very miserable one. I should judge from his sentiments that no inducement, however great, could influence him ever again to accept any public position. He seems to despair of any good coming to the South through representative influences; for at best Southern power in Congress will present but a slight barrier to the overwhelming strength of the North, and any boon which the South may receive must be purely the result of voluntary concession. Mr. Miles, with his views of the future, would not much enjoy any representative position in the government, even if eligible. I should infer that he would decline to accept, from a sense of his inability to effect any good, any position under the new political dispensation. He was always esteemed a man of a high order of talent, but of rather Southern views, such as might be expected from a representative from South Carolina.

Two interesting cases are now pending in the federal and State courts for this circuit.

In the federal court, Judge Underwood, a suit has been brought by Wm. Meredith and Cadwallader Biddle, administrators of Catherine C. Keppele, of Philadelphia, deceased, against the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad Company for some $30 000, the amount of dividends which accrued during the war upon 304 shares of stock held by deceased in that road. Under the sequestration act passed by the Confederate Congress the stocks belonging to this lady were sequestered, and all the dividends accruing upon them paid to the agent of that government by order of the district Confederate Court. The defendants maintain, in their answer to the claims made by the plaintiffs, that the dividends were paid under compulsion of law to the agent of the Confederate government, and that if the complainants are entitled to these dividends they should receive them in kind—that is, in Confederate currency, which is the form in which all the dividends of that road were paid during the war and its earnings received. The case was argued to-day by Mr. Beach, of Alexandria, for the plaintiffs. Mr. Wm. Green, of this city, will deliver his argument to-morrow for the defence.

The other case which has been argued for the last three days in the State Circuit Court for this city, Judge Meredith, is that of a man named Zetelle against Gustavus A. Myers, a lawyer of this city, and Frederick J. Cridland, acting British Consul in Richmond during the first three years of the war. He was subsequently transferred to Mobile, where his functions were brought to a close by a peremptory order from Benjamin, the rebel Secretary of State, because of a too free use of his consular powers to shield from conscription persons known to be amenable to the conscription.

Zetelle, who is a Grecian by birth, wound up his affairs in this city in the summer of 1861 for the purpose of leaving the country, and constituted Myers and Cridland his agents, under power of attorney, to dispose of some property which he owned here, and receive moneys due to him and secured by a deed of trust. He held one deed for $6,000 loaned to a man named Pizzini, in gold, before the breaking out of the war. This deed would not mature until 1865, running, as I understand, to a period subsequent to the close of the war. In 1863, however, Myers received the $6,000 in Confederate money, and invested it in Confederate eight per cent bonds. He also sold all Zetelle's property, investing the proceeds in a similar manner, as he felt justified in doing under the power of attorney. Immediately after the close of the war Zetelle returned from Europe. He applied to Myers for his money, and that gentleman tendered him some $19,000 in Confederate bonds, which at that time were worthless. Zetelle refused to accept them, and brought a suit for this amount soon after, but from one cause or another it was put off until the present term of the Circuit Court. The Judge has not yet rendered his decision; but the general opinion is that it will be adverse to the plaintiff's claim, inasmuch as the uniform rule in cases of dispute arising upon contracts made during the war has been to sustain them. The novel feature in this case is the acceptance of Confederate money in discharge of the deed of trust two years in advance of its maturity. This involves a question of negligence, which may possibly weigh against the unlimited discretion conferred by the power of attorney. The decision is looked for with universal interest, as it involves a principle somewhat analogous to fiduciary trusts exercised in a like negligent manner.

"Beware of the Yankees!" is the head line adopted in some Southern schools for children's copy books. With such a sentiment inculcated upon the youthful mind, in the form, too, that can make it most enduring, we can easily imagine with what feelings the growing generation will regard the Yankees. And this is but one of a thousand forms in which hatred of that people is engendered in the growing youths of the South. They have vividly pictured to them the insults, tyranny and oppression inflicted upon the South by the "Yankees." They are taught to regard them all as rogues and cheats, and have frequently cited to them, by way of example, the roguish class of federal office holders now at the South.

A gentleman who has travelled through a large portion of Virginia by private conveyance informs me that the whole mass of people whom he encountered, both black and white, are literally clothed in rags. Their shoes and head gear are in keeping with their other scant clothing. Taking Virginia as a fair standard for the whole South, we can readily solve the causes of the terrible depression in the various branches of trade which supply their needs. The truth is, the North is burning the candle at both ends by their course in reference to the South. They are losing, in a negative form, by the general poverty at the South, occasioned by the exclusion of capital from political causes, and the consequent want of the necessary means of production, and positively by the constant outlay necessary for the maintenance of a Freedmen's Bureau and a standing army, of which there is certainly no need.

The surveillance kept up with regard to distillers is so great as actually to deter some who have whiskey on hand from exporting it until the excitement resulting from the closing up of so many distilleries here abates. They say they are apprehensive lest parcels duly marked should be seized, and then the trouble and cost of recovering them would be more than they would realize in market. It would be well to punish, for example's sake, those detected in frauds, and allow honest distillers to go on. It would undoubtedly promote the interest of the government if detectives were also punished who seize, with a view to swindle, whiskey which they know to be properly branded. Such men can easily frighten poor ruralists into submission to any outrage in order to avoid litigation and trouble.

If there is anything that shows the disgust of the Southern people for political matters it is the marked indifference with which the President and his escorts were received here. This does not by any means proceed from a want of respect for President Johnson and those who accompanied him, but an unwillingness on the part of the people to take any part in public affairs. Their aversion to any movement having even remotely a political character overcame the curiosity of the people here to see the President and their desire to honor him. They are heartily sick of politics, and eschew even those connected with them, even to the extent of refusing to honor him whom they regard as the champion of their rights.

I heard many remarks in the federal court to-day upon the spectacle of a petit jury composed of seven blacks and five whites. One of the colored jurors was a servant of Henry A. Wise while Governor of Virginia. It would hardly comport with Wise's tastes as a Southern man and former slaveholder to address this combination—"Gentlemen of the jury." And yet I don't know but what he would do it. I have always heard that he was a very kind master. Certain it is that his late slaves are very much attached to him. The other colored members of the jury were, and still are, waiters and barbers.

A Look into Danville—What it has to Show from the War—Improvement in the Tone of Public Opinion as we Come North from South Carolina—Negro Agrarianism—Confiscation—Virginia all for Reconstruction—Debts and Taxes Certain to Cut Up the Large Landed Estates South—A Citizen's Statement—What the Government Ought to Do to Encourage Immigration to the Southern States.

DANVILLE, Va., June 8, 1867.

This place is famous for three things—its water power from the rapids of the Dan, not one-tenth appropriated, its productive surrounding tobacco country and its tobacco factories. It has also become historically famous as the place from which Jeff Davis, as President of the "so called Confederate States," issued his last proclamation that he would never give up a single State of the confederacy, never, never, but would recover Richmond or "die in the last ditch." They had been preparing a circle of prodigious fortifications on the surrounding hills for another stand in the event of Lee's retreat to this point; but with the news that he had missed the road, and that Grant had run him down, "President Davis" was off, and his last ditch was left unfinished. "Those fortifications, sir," said a citizen this morning, "general bankruptcy, factories suspended, universal stagnation, free niggers, equal rights, the Freedmen's Bureau and a military government are all we have to show for our four years' war."

But the inquiring traveller from Columbia, S. C., to this point will nevertheless find that public opinion has been improving all the way; that the people in North Carolina, on her northern border, are in a better frame of mind for reconstruction than on her southern border, next to the Palmettos, and that in crossing over into Virginia there is no dissenting voice among the white citizens as to the necessity and sound policy of carrying out the orders of Congress and their military commander. In South Carolina a large body of the old chivalry are with ex-Governor Perry. "Give us," they say, "a military commander infinitely rather than such State rights as those of Tennessee under Brownlow. Give us General Sickles or his military successor, but spare us a State government under the control of our emancipated slaves. They have the numerical power, and how will they exercise it with the State in their hands? The confiscation of our plantations will be only an item in their levelling measures. They have proclaimed their purpose to be to make property pay all their taxes, support all their schools and all their paupers. Therefore, if by masterly inactivity we can defeat this Congressional plan of reconstruction, we will defeat it." Such views are heard in South Carolina.

In North Carolina, where, the whites being always in a large majority, there have been no fears of emancipation, there are no fears of the negroes gaining the State under the reconstruction terms laid down by Congress. The anti-radical whites say the radicals will carry the State; but they will use the blacks and not be used by them. The white balance of power will save the State from negro agrarianism, and, if because the radicals lose their white supporters they lose the State, they will be careful while humoring the negroes to keep them under subjection. Hence there is no outspoken "masterly inactivity" party in North as there is in South Carolina.

Here in Danville, on the southern border of Virginia, the idea seems to be universal that there is no chance for the State or her people but in complying with the terms of Congress as fast as possible. And we are assured that such is the universal sentiment of the State. Here people have none of those fearful apprehensions of negro suffrage, negro power and negro agrarianism which exist in South Carolina; no fears of negro legislation resulting in confiscation by the State, and but little fear of confiscation by Congress. "What is the use," remarked a citizen of this place an hour ago, "in discussing the general situation of things? Our large landholders are bankrupt; they cannot get the labor to work their lands, and the taxes are eating them up. What will follow? They will have to sell their surplus lands to pay their debts, to meet their taxes, and to support their families. A year or two years hence you will see this thing in full operation. Large estates will be cut up, and they will go off so cheap for cash that Northern settlers, if we can get them started, will come in here by thousands. You can get good lands now all through this fine, healthy country from $25 down to $5 an acre, ready for occupation; but they will be cheaper, a great deal cheaper next year, unless money becomes more plentiful and our taxes are cut down. But we expect them to be increased with the reconstruction of the State. Our State taxes, at all events, will have to be largely increased. They may be increased one, two or three hundred per cent upon what they now are; for we shall be going to housekeeping again, and shall want any quantity of new furniture. The cutting up, then, into small farms of our large landed estates is certain to come without any confiscation, and prudent, industrious negroes, who have saved a little money by clubbing together, can get their share. The old system of large plantations is doomed, because the labor cannot be had to work them, and because the taxes, federal and State, will, unless worked, eat them up. Think of it, sir, forty cents a pound internal revenue tax on our manufactured tobacco!"

"Now, sir," continued the gentleman of Danville, "let me tell you how this thing of occupying these small farms ought to be managed. By companies of capitalists and colonies of settlers. Let your Northern company of capitalists, for instance, come down here and select a large tract, including some of our gold, coal or copper mines, or some good water power, and let them bring down a colony of farmers, smiths, shoemakers, carpenters, miners, mechanics, everything needed for a prosperous village, town or city, and let these communities be established in new towns and villages. They will thus have a market for everything among themselves, and they will prosper. Such a plan, sir, would make your Germans as much at home as in Germany."

"The government might, perhaps, do something for you in this way."

"Why not, sir? Ten millions of our national currency for a parcel of icebergs and polar bears! Why not ten millions to encourage immigration into the cotton and tobacco fields, the mines, the forests and the manufacturing water privileges of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and East Tennessee, and the other Southern States? So much a head to every actual settler would soon bring back to the national treasury five hundred per cent. Would not this be five hundred times better than ten millions for Russian America, or the ten millions a year or more now spent on your Freedmen's Bureau?"

We thought it would, and we threw out the hint.

Observing a white man this morning, in Danville, holding an umbrella over a negro woman's head to protect her from the rain, a facetious Virginian remarked, "Mr. Stranger, excuse me; but look at that, and then you can tell your people up North that Virginia accepts the situation."

ARKANSAS.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Arrival of General Ord to Appoint Boards of Registration for Arkansas—His Plan and Policy of Appointments, and Difficulties in the Way—Views of the General on the Approaching Election—Reconstruction and Kindred Topics—Alleged Project for Holding a Rebel State Convention—Rumored Conversion of General Hindman to Radicalism—Right of Re-assembling Claimed by the State Legislature on Constitutional Grounds.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 28, 1867.

Having got into working order the machinery of registration in Mississippi, General Ord is now turning his attention to accomplishing the same result in Arkansas. His arrival here from Vicksburg, on the latter important mission, accompanied by Colonel Smith and Lieutenant Brown, of his staff, I have already announced by special telegram. With a bold vigor of purpose and determination sure to overcome every opposing obstacle—the strongest as well as safest points of his character under his present weight of responsibilities—he has set himself to work. And it is a work of hearty earnest—that earnestness that carries with it thorough conviction of invincible fidelity to what he deems his duty, and abiding conscientiousness, from which nothing can swerve him. From spending an evening in his company since his arrival I am satisfied this is not saying too much of him. Let it not be supposed, however, that he is of that profoundly wise class of men who if by any possible fortuity they are placed in a position of trust at once assume the solemn gravity of owls, and put on a severely portentous air of business that is positively painful to contemplate. He is no such style of man, and neither is he of that lean and deeply meditative sort photographed by Shakspeare in Cassius. The stamp of plain, every day, keen-sighted practicability, showing him a fitting man for his place, reveals itself alike in his manner and words. There is, moreover, an agreeably wholesome and winning look about him; a pleasing democracy of character is evidenced in the careless negligence of cutting and combing his hair, which, though tinged with gray, time has not thinned in the least. There is sunshine in his ruddy face, and his easy, off-hand way of talking inspires confidence and respect, while forbidding familiarity. The shape of his head above the eyebrows bears a striking resemblance to General McClellan, which may be taken as complimentary or otherwise; but the nose inclines to the pug—very slightly it is true, but enough to reveal a humorous side to his character. It is in the overhanging eyebrows and deeply set eyes, that have as nearly the power of looking through a person as eyes ever did or can have; in the short, crisp mustache, square, massive chin and his tall, compact, broad-shouldered and finely erect figure, that are seen the soldier and martinet; while his general expression, bearing and utterances show, coupled with these splendid soldierly endowments, the exalted probity and unfaltering firmness that, with proper opportunities, never fail to become at least assured allies, if not actual pioneers, in achieving greatness. My intention was not to give a pen and ink sketch of General Ord, it being perhaps rather late in the day for this, though half unconsciously I have glided into it; but "what is writ is writ," and so let it be, although I am happy no necessity exists for adding "would it were worthier," except that were it worthier done. On the evening I had the pleasure of spending in the General's company, he was at the old United States arsenal headquarters, the present headquarters of Brevet Brigadier General C. N. Smith, Twenty-eighth United States infantry, commanding sub-district of Arkansas. The State Central Committee appointed by the late Union State Convention was present, as also were Judge Tibbetts, Colonel Ryan, Captain Patten, Collector of Internal Revenue, and other prominent Union men of the city. A serenade, intended for the General's honor, by the post band, in the confusing clangor of cymbals and terrifying tooting of trombones—this is more an alliteration than literal description of the music, for some of it was very fine—rendered for a while rather uncomfortable and talking necessary to accomplish intelligibility; but the band, happily, after a time went away, and then the conversation went on easier. The Mississippi inundation, and a large amount of destitution and suffering growing out of it, the growth of cotton in this State and its comparison with corn as a staple, and some rather humorous statements on the etymology of names, comprised the preliminary subjects of conversation.

"How long, General, before you will probably have all the Boards of Registration in this State appointed," from one of the committee referred to above, started up the question of registration, regarding which and kindred topics associated with it, the views and declarations of the General are of paramount interest at this time.

"I shall appoint them as rapidly as I possibly can," replied the General. "Before leaving Vicksburg I had only appointed the board for Pulaski county, but through stopping at Helena and Pine Bluff and labors since my arrival I have appointed the Boards for Phillips, Independence, Prairie and Monroe counties, and shall continue to make other appointments during my stay. From here I shall go to Washington, Camden and other sections in the southern counties, and make the appointments there. Through several of the northern counties I shall send army officers on canvassing tours to find the best men eligible to hold the position and who will accept the appointment. In certain counties I shall confide the recommendation of registrars to a special board of army officers to be appointed here, which board will forward their recommendations to me at Vicksburg for my approval or rejection, as I think best on the papers and vouchers accompanying these recommendations."

"The chief difficulty, I suppose," suggested another member of the committee, "is in the number of candidates that are presented and a perplexity to select from them?"

"Beyond two or three counties there will be no perplexity of this kind," rejoined the General. "The task of selection, if there was abundant material to select from, would be very easy. The trouble is to find the material, in the first place, and in the next place to find that of the right kind. Altogether there are graver difficulties to be overcome than I anticipated. Starting on the basis laid down in the reconstruction enactments, that undoubted Union men can alone be appointed, my next aim was only to select persons resident in the counties for which they are respectively appointed, and final intention, and, I may say, fixed determination, to fill the places with men carrying weight and influence with them. Now in some counties there cannot be found the requisite complement of qualified men, which necessitates making up the deficiency in full or in part from other counties—a step that is bound to create jealousy and dissatisfaction. In other counties there are plenty of qualified men, but it is difficult to get the best ones to serve, some not having the time to spare from their business, some having a dislike to incur the odium they dread will attach to the position, and some lacking the pluck to face the music. Again, there is a necessity to examine the credentials and antecedents of the parties recommended, as the fact of a person being able to take the required oath does not of necessity establish him as a fit one to be selected. However, I am in hopes and believe that by the time everything else is ready, and more particularly the required stationery, I shall be able to make all the appointments."

"Do you believe there will be any disturbances," asked one, "attending the registration?"

"Not a bit of it," was the reply. "Everybody who can register I think will do so. I infer this from the reports coming from States where registration is going on, and from what I know of its progress in Mississippi. In a precinct near Vicksburg, where eighty-four votes were polled before the war, there have been the names of seventy-three white voters registered, besides five hundred and forty negro voters. The effects of the war can easily account for the difference in the registry of whites."

"Do you apprehend," asked another, "any difficulty at the time of election?"

"In some localities I certainly think there will be trouble," answered the General.

"It would not be an election unless there was some fighting," interrupted one of the committee.

"Yes, in that regard," replied the General, "the old fighting element of elections before the war is doubtless bound to show itself. The chief preventives will be keeping whiskey away and preventing the carrying of small arms. A few may want to pommel one another with their fists, but that won't do much harm."

Giving the General's observations at further length, responsive to the battery of interrogatories of which he was the subject, is unnecessary to the intelligent development of his views. He expresses himself satisfied with the progress of reconstruction, and seems to entertain no doubt of growing loyalty among the people of the States under military rule. It is a question of time when some of them will get back into the Union, but all, he affirms, are bound to accept the terms for their readmission offered by Congress, through seeing, as they cannot fail to see, sooner or later, that on such acceptance depend their best interest and welfare in the future. In his district everything is working as harmoniously as could be expected, and the prospects for increasing harmony of action towards effecting a restoration to the Union are most favorable. He denies having threatened, as charged in the speech of Robert J. Walker before the Supreme Court at Washington, in the Mississippi and Georgia injunction case, to remove State officers in Mississippi, and further declares that he has no such intention, at present at least. He expects within two or three weeks to complete the appointment of boards of registration, and get everything in working trim for a full and correct registration of the voters of the State. In his appointment of registrars he does not expect to please everybody and even all Union men. For instance, the appointment of Cantrell as one of the registrars for this county raised quite an outcry of opposition. It was urged against the doctor that he had served as a surgeon in the Confederate army and could not take the required oath. In his favor it was alleged that he is a recanted rebel, and that he showed his conversion to Unionism by accepting a position in the Medical Bureau of the Federal army under General Steele. General Ord appointed him, no doubt, pursuant to the plan explained above, from his being a man of weight and influence and having probably satisfied himself of his ability to take the necessary oath. There was certainly no show of back-out in the General; and between the opposing factions the contest was beginning to wax quite warm. It is difficult to tell what would have been its culmination had it not been ended by the doctor coming to the rescue himself, through sending a letter declining the appointment. He gives as the reason of his declination the entire absorption of his time in his professional duties. It is stated, however—and I give the statement as it reaches me, not vouching for its accuracy, that he was influenced to this course by an altogether different reason—an intimation that if he took the iron-clad oath the attention of the Grand Jury would be called to his case. As to General Ord attempting or desiring to curry favor with rebels, there is not, I feel confident, a word of truth in it. He is, I believe, a man alike thoroughly independent in his views and actions. He is a true soldier, and will carry out his orders, and to his own orders he expects as prompt and unquestioned obedience. The time he was in command of this State gave him a good opportunity to become acquainted with the leading men and to know who are firmly loyal and who are not; and this knowledge he is now turning to good and serviceable account, and in his appointment of registrars it may be set down as a foregone fact that only good and reliable men will be selected. Although sparing time for conferences with Governor Murphy and subordinate dignitaries, civil, military, judicial and otherwise, including a visit to the State Penitentiary, he has been very busy since his arrival prosecuting the special object of his mission—the appointment of registrars. He has now completed the appointments for some thirty counties. The board of army officers alluded to above by the general, to whom are referred the selection and recommendation of registrars for certain counties, consists of Brevet Brigadier General C. H. Smith, Brevet Colonel Henry Page and Lieutenant S. M. Mills. This board will sit without regard to hours and send their nominations by telegraph to the military district headquarters at Vicksburg, and at the same time forward by mail the reasons inducing the nominations. Officers have also, in compliance with the general's statement, been detailed to go through some of the northern counties to make up for those counties a list of registrars. The general expects to leave to-morrow on his return to Vicksburg. He goes by way of Hot Springs, Arkadelphia, Washington and Camden, and through other southern portions of the State, and will complete the appointments in those counties, making his way back to Vicksburg by the Washita, Red and Mississippi rivers. The same orders will be issued governing the actions of the newly appointed boards and those to be still appointed as have been issued for several counties in Mississippi and Pulaski county in this State. Regarding the expense of registration it may not be an uninteresting item to mention that a staff officer of General Sheridan, who travelled part of the way on the steamer with General Ord and staff on their way here, stated that the stationery used in General Sheridan's district would cost on an average $75,000 a month. It is probable that it will not be a great deal less in the other districts. Add to this the pay of $6 a day each to the members of the Boards of Registration, and clerical hire besides, and it requires no skill in mathematics to foretell a good round aggregate bill of registration expense in each district—an item that will require a good percentage of the tax on Southern cotton to liquidate. Should not the expense come out of cotton and other Southern products? Should not they who sow the wind look to reap the whirlwind?

It is confidentially talked in certain circles here that a plan is on foot for a State convention of the rebel faction to be held in the State House in the early part of next month. At the head of this movement is said to be Mr. A. H. Garland, who will be remembered as having been chosen United States Senator by the last State Legislature. His success at Washington in being allowed to practise in the United States Supreme Court emboldened him with the hope of further success in being admitted to a seat in the United States Senate. Having failed in this latter expectation, it is now said he has "soured" on the general government and is striving his utmost to get up a party hostile to reconstruction, to combat the Union element in the approaching election and secure a rebel majority in the convention to frame a new constitution. Working in alliance with him are said to be Colonel Brooks, of Washington, and Colonel Fellows, of Camden, both of whom are here. Both these last named gentlemen—though the former came from Michigan and the latter from New York—commanded rebel regiments during the war, and like most Northern men of Southern principles outrebel the worst rebels in their hatred of everything Northern. More of this rebel partisan movement, if there is any substantial basis for the rumor, is sure to be speedily developed. Contrawise to this I hear it stated that General Hindman is rapidly verging to the extreme of radicalism, and it is even reported that he is soon to stump the State on behalf of the Union party. Having discovered, as he says, that Mexico is not a fit country for a decent white man to live in, he has come back to his old State with a determination to stay here the rest of his days, and from having been the worst of rebels, become the best of Union men.

That order of General Ord interdicting the State Legislature from meeting again according to adjournment does not, it seems, set very well on the stomachs of these quondam law makers. An extended protest has been prepared and is now being circulated for the signatures of the different members. It is claimed that this order is not justified by the Reconstruction act, and is therefore unconstitutional. The probability is that their protest will be like calling spirits from the vasty deep, and be as ineffectual toward accomplishing the desired result.

THE WAR-POLITICO FIGHT IN NEW ORLEANS.

A Succinct History of the Quarrel.

[From the New Orleans Times, June 6.]

The quarrel between the General commanding the district and Governor Wells has become so violent and its results so complicated that few have cared to inquire into the real cause or origin of the explosion. It is, however, interesting if not important to a full understanding of the issue that the facts which preceded and produced it should be clearly known and stated. Though the relations of the General and the Governor have been for some time uncertain and variable, with intermittent accesses of amiable and confidential intercourse and of bitter and violent conflicts, yet the immediate cause, the *teterrima causa belli*, which has brought these two notabilities into their present fierce and mortal antagonism may be found in the conflict arising out of the several attempts to create a Levee Board to direct the execution of the most important public works in the State.

It is a curious and instructive history, in which, we believe, the contestants are each able to make a good showing against each other, but find it very difficult to defend their own acts. During the last four months there have existed in the State, nominally and apparently at least, four Boards of Levee Commissioners. When the last Legislature assembled there was an old Board, which was constituted by Governor Wells without any authority of law, but which the Legislature thought it expedient to confirm and recognize.

This was Board No. 1.

The Legislature, however, passed a new bill, providing for the election of Levee Commissioners by the two bodies of the General Assembly, and without waiting for the Governor's approval of the bill, proceeded to elect very competent citizens to these posts.

This was Board No. 2.

The Legislature acted prematurely and irregularly in this election, and the Governor pocketing their bill the election fell to the ground, and the old Board continued in office until the Governor claimed the right to unmake as he made them. He therefore appointed a new Board, which is the one General Sheridan charges was admitted by his Excellency to have been constituted with special reference to the distribution of patronage so as to promote the success of the radicals in the election in this State. As this charge of the General is not denied in the Governor's elaborate reply to the General's denunciation, as well as for other reasons, we assume it to be admitted and justified. We do not, in view of all the other transactions and appointments of our high officials, suppose that this charge involves a very serious imputation upon the Governor, at least in view of the partisan managers who have taken our people and affairs under their control. Honest citizens may have some old fashioned notions that such a use of power or patronage, or usurpation thereof, is revolting, criminal and detestable; but what right have they to set themselves up in judgment over men who get their ideas of morality, patriotism and public duty from that pure spring of all virtue and truth which gurgles from the base of the federal capital?

The virtuous object and end of the constitution of this Board reconciled all "true patriots" to the obvious illegality of it, though that patent fact is an inconvenience to the Governor in his controversy with General Sheridan. The latter officer, with his very vague and sweeping authority, recognized in so many cases by the Governor himself, may retort with no little effect upon the Governor, when questioned as to his power over the Levee Board, by asking when, where and how did his Excellency get the power to appoint a Board of Levee Commissioners? With what face can he grow indignant over the usurpations of anybody, when he himself has been and is now the most unblushing usurper of power under the constitution which he is sworn to execute?

This was Board No. 3.

And this is the Board which General Sheridan displaced and superseded very promptly by the appointment himself of Board No. 4. To this Board the Governor objects; first, on the ground of legality, and secondly, on grounds of personal objectionableness of the appointees. Of the five Commissioners he declares that one was a member of the Secession Convention of 1861, and an earnest advocate of that measure, a signer of the ordinance of secession. Another is a British subject who, during the war, disclaimed all responsibility to the United States and put himself under the care of the British Lion. A third was a blockade runner.

How far are these grounds of disqualification for the duty of superintending the building of levees, we cannot determine, not being able to find in the United States or State statutes any law declaring the qualifications of these officials. Should the General, however, think proper to reconvene on the Governor, we feel pretty well assured from our personal knowledge of the history of some of his associates and appointees that he could rally therefrom quite a respectable number of full blown secessionists, loyal subjects of her majesty Queen Victoria, and very active and successful blockade runners.

Such is briefly the history and present state of the conflict which has been carried to Washington for final determination by the high powers of the federal government.

[From the New Orleans Picayune, June 7.]

In the general merits of the dispute between the Governor by election and the military authorities we have said all we have thought expedient to say. But we do not lose interest in the developments by either side, and have paid this attention to one of the matters the better to enable ourselves to follow the affair understandingly. On both sides there is evident want of more perspicuity of style and clearer comprehension by the writers of what they intend to say. The General's despatches should not so read as to be understood as saying that he had seen that which he had only discovered or learned afterwards by the testimony of others; and the Governor, in his ambitious hunt after a sarcasm, should be careful not to lay himself open in his assertions to be confronted against himself by his own sworn testimony, recorded in print.

BENJAMIN F. FLANDERS, THE NEW GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA.

This gentleman, the recent appointee of General Sheridan as Governor of Louisiana, was born in Bristol, New Hampshire, on the 26th day of January, 1816. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1842, subsequently studied law, and in 1843 went to New Orleans. Upon his arrival he took an active part in the organization of public schools, and held the position of President of the of the Conti street school for a short time. He then embarked in a newspaper enterprise, but finding the business unprofitable abandoned it and returned to school teaching. In 1853 Mr. Flanders took an active part in the railroad building mania which raged in New Orleans at that time, and was elected Secretary and Treasurer of New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad. He filled this position until the breaking out of the war, when he was compelled to resign his position and leave the State, as he was well known to be one of the most uncompromising Union men in the State. When the military obtained possession of New Orleans Mr. Flanders returned, and was soon after appointed City Treasurer by General Butler. In 1863 he was elected to Congress, and on the expiration of the term was appointed Supervising Special Agent of the Treasury Department. In the latter part of the same year he was elected President of the First National Bank, but soon resigned to attend to his official duties. In 1864 he was one of the three candidates for Governor.

[From the New Orleans Times, June 7.]

Mr. B. F. Flanders, the gentleman upon whom the mantle of the Governorship has been placed by order of General Sheridan, is an old resident of New Orleans, is well known to all classes of our people, and is regarded by them with various and diverse feelings. We believe, however, the prevalent feeling with those who know him most intimately, and those who have investigated his conduct most closely, is that of confidence in his personal integrity, firmness and fidelity to duty and to what he believes to be right.

[From the New Orleans Republican, June 7.]

Mr. Thomas J. Durant has formally and positively declined the office of Provisional Governor of Louisiana, tendered him by Major General Sheridan, and the dignity has now been offered to Hon. B. F. Flanders. We have not learned whether Mr. Flanders will accept or decline the honor; but from the fact that he is in the city the presumption is a fair one that his views on the subject were known to the General before the selection was made. It may be assumed, therefore, that he will accept the position. The order of appointment directs that he shall enter upon the duties of his office at once.

A GROWL FROM PROVIDENCE.

The Providence *Journal* growls about Governor Wells's not holding the position of Governor of Louisiana, and says:—

Governor Wells, of Louisiana, "surrenders the office only to the sword." Very well; by what other tenure has he held it? How long would he have continued in office after the withdrawal of the national forces, which alone have preserved order and enforced such laws as they have had, and it was better than they had been accustomed to in Louisiana? The government of Louisiana has been a military one for the last six years.

SOUTHERN MATTERS—SOCIAL AND POLITICAL.

A radical candidate for the Louisiana State Convention has just been murdered at his home in Nachitoches parish, under circumstances of peculiar atrocity, which, in the opinion of the Philadelphia *Press*, disclose the terrible social and political condition of that section of the country. The murderers were nephews of Governor Wells.

[From the Baltimore American, June 11.]

THE VETO POWER.

We are glad to find that the Convention at Annapolis are about to adopt one article which will have a tendency to guard the State from the dangers which other measures said to be in contemplation by them threaten. We think the qualified veto power, with which they have decided to invest the Governor, a decidedly proper one. It is a safeguard against inconsiderate and hasty legislation, and which our recent experience has taught us to be greatly needed.

OBITUARY OF A DEFUNCT SECESSION PRESS.

[From the Richmond Times, June 10.]

The connection of Messrs. P. H. Gibson, M. B. Godwin and F. D. Lee with the editorial department of the Richmond *Times* ceased somewhere in the "wee sma' hours" this morning. We have long contemplated this momentous step, and have only been restrained from taking it by the earnest solicitation of "many citizens." We, however, at length have taken it, forced by the exigencies of "the situation." In retiring (gracefully) from the press forever, unless lured back by the certain prospect of pecuniary reward, we would return our heartfelt thanks to our late brethren of the quill for many courtesies; to the enterprising citizens of Richmond for much-prized free treats of various descriptions received at their hands; to the railroad, steamboat and canal boat companies for free tickets and frequent invitations to "take something" at the various stations on their respective routes; to the theatrical and "horse opera" managers, and to the "Black Crook" circuses, glass and other blowers, lecturers, dwarfs, giants, Miltonian tableaux and panoramas through the country; and we promise all and each of these that, should it ever again be our fortune to figure in the daily press of this or any other city, we shall be but too happy to receive renewed evidence of their distinguished consideration. We shall not now name the particular pursuits to which we are severally about to betake ourselves, lest thereby we create a general rush of the unemployed and adventurous to those avocations, and thus endanger our individual prospects. *Au revoir!*

THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST IN THE CHRISTIAN PRESS.

[From the Christian Advocate, the Rev. Dr. David Curry, editor, May 23.]

The great power of the periodical press as an educating agency is undeniable. With a pardonable egotism it claims for itself the first place in the work of forming and dictating public opinion and private sentiments, and more than this, and less excusably, it depreciates or ignores all other influences in the same work. But without discussing the relative efficiency of the different agencies by which the characters, tastes and consciences of the people are fashioned, the real power of the periodical press must be conceded. The character and tendencies of the press is, therefore, a subject of great practical interest. What, then, are the moral, religious, social and esthetical positions and teachings of our principal newspapers and magazines? Do they generally inculcate the wholesome morality of the Sermon on the Mount? Do they respect and sustain the great and fundamental truths of Christianity as accepted verities? Are their social ethics conformed to the ethical system of the New Testament? Is their criticism directed agreeably to the stern tastes displayed by the purity and spirituality of our holy religion? These are questions of no secondary importance. An affirmative answer to them, were it possible, would present a social agency of incalculable power working for the regeneration and conservation of society. A negative answer, if demanded by the truth, must show the same agency operating with its ceaseless efficiency to demoralize and mislead. The distinction of the religious and the secular press is clearly marked, though certain publications present the characteristics of both. There is, indeed, a real diversity of purpose in the two cases, which assigns to each its appropriate field, and requires of them corresponding adaptations. Were the whole community made up of real Christians the secular press would still be a necessity, as well as civil institutions and schools for secular instruction. The maintenance of society demands such an agency for news, for literature and criticism, and for the discussion of economical, social and political subjects. There is, indeed, much in common between the two classes of publications; but while the one is chiefly political and financial, the other is religious and ecclesiastical. And yet the secular press scarcely less directly, and equally effectually, operates toward the formation of the moral character of society. The secular press has very greatly advanced in its ability and power within the past few years. An amount of business enterprise before unthought of has been brought to its management. Money has been used judiciously but very freely. The best talent of the country has been employed as editors, contributors, and business managers; so that the newspaper or magazine of to-day is quite another and much greater affair than was its progenitor of a quarter of a century ago. *A corresponding influence in society has thus been attained, and is now exerted, whether for good or evil; and now, to a much larger degree than ever before, the secular press of the country is leavening the mind and character of the people.* The religious press has also advanced somewhat, perhaps with a proportionate increase; but, starting with much less, it has fallen very far behind. For some cause, or for several conjoined, there has been a general lack of business enterprise in this department. Either there has been a want of available capital or a lack of appreciation of its utility and necessity; for we know of no religious paper that expends in its production a moiety of what is requisite to make it what such a paper should be. We entered this office three years ago, with a conviction that the religious press of the country was far below the required standard, and with a determination to do what we could to remedy the recognized evil. We have labored diligently for that end, and we believe not wholly without success; and we have been gratified at the same time to note an advance in several of the principal religious papers of the land. We are, however, to-day more sensible of our failure to reach our own ideal than ever before. Our whole system of proceeding, in which we do not widely differ from our contemporaries, is on a scale that forbids any large success, and renders impossible the improvements that are seen to be necessary. Thus outstripped by the secular press, the religious appears to great disadvantage. It fails to command the respect that is essential to the fulfilment of its mission. It is, indeed, a power for good in the community, but vastly less than it is capable of becoming. In this state of the case it is not strange that the secular press largely occupies the place that belongs to the religious; that for the things common to both even religious people depend almost entirely upon the former. We sometimes recognize the necessity of making available the silent influences of religion by placing our children, even in their secular occupations, among religious surroundings—as when religious schools and teachers are sought for, though the studies to be pursued are not religious. We sometimes talk of the importance of having our histories and philosophies and learned treatises written from a Christian standpoint. But if this is worthy of attention, how much more the mind's daily food, which becomes the staple of our thinking, and by assimilation enters into the composition of the character. And such is the newspaper, the magazine and the review. Is it not, then, high time that somebody should, in the interests of religion and sound morals, set about the work of raising the religious press to its proper elevation? The inferiority of the religious press, as compared with the secular, has exercised a most unfavorable influence upon the latter. Had the former, by its superiority of style and ability, given its specific tone to the periodical literature of the age, the secular press would have been compelled to harmonize its tone with that. On the contrary, the recognized inferiority of the religious press tends to render the secular more decidedly irreligious. As the pulpit must be supplied with thought, culture and manly self-assertion to give it proper influence in society, so the same considerations apply to the press; and where, in either case, these are wanting, irreligion and scepticism will protrude themselves into notice. To us it is among the most painful and alarming signs of the times that, by reason of the comparative elevation and the positive irreligiousness of the secular press, our people, church members and the young persons of our families and churches, are daily and monthly drugged with moral poisons in what they read. To one who has not given attention to the subject it will occasion a thrill of painful surprise to examine how largely the press of the country is managed by men who do not conceal their disbelief in, and their contempt for, Christianity. Open professions of infidelity are not their policy; but while retaining the name and somewhat of the forms of expression of religion, another and a widely different and antagonistic gospel is taught. The *North American Review*, almost the only general literary quarterly, is as evidently if not as offensively non-Christian as are the writings of Strauss or Theodore Parker. The *Atlantic Monthly*, the first literary magazine in the country, is the recognized organ of the most rationalistic free thinkers about Boston, which is equivalent to saying, in the world; for in, point of arrant scepticism, Tubingen is cast into the shade by our American Athens. Our New York periodicals, if less outspoken in their irreligion, are scarcely less decidedly non-Christian. The ruling minds in the editorial work of both of Harpers' able and popular works are certainly not in sympathy with plain, old-style religion. *The Nation*, probably the ablest and most scholarly weekly ever issued in this country, is managed by an editorial corps of "Liberal Christians," which is the euphemism for polite infidels. The *Phrenological Journal*, a truly ably conducted monthly, is confessedly outside the plane of orthodoxy; while the *Liberal Christian* (Unitarian) and the *Anti-Slavery Standard* (which two we name not because of any special ability, however,) belong in the same category. Of the daily papers the HERALD has its established reputation for reckless disregard for religion in any form, though we have sometimes almost concluded that it is, perhaps, the least dangerous of our principal dailies. The *Tribune* has always been anti-Christian, though in its chief editor's strange way it has been humanitarian. We doubt, however, whether all the good it may have done in the interests of anti slavery, of education and of social economy, can compensate for the harm it has inflicted by unsettling the faith of thousands of the young people of the land. The *Daily Times*, which for a long time occupied an enviable position as a moral and Christian journal, has lately passed over to the class of sneerers at religion and morality. Its new department of "Minor Topics" is among the most objectionable things found in any of our daily papers, reckless alike of truth, of propriety and of decency; while its politics are as they are, if anybody can find out how. Of the older style of papers the *Evening Post* is a very decent political and literary journal, with Unitarian proclivities. The *Journal of Commerce*, once almost a religious paper, is such no longer. The *Commercial Advertiser*, for long years the model for a secular newspaper, is now simply the mouthpiece of a very bitter old politician, disappointed and cynical. These are some of the periodicals that are now giving form and fashion to the minds of the people of this nation. The view they present is indeed saddening and full of evil portent. But where is the remedy?

[From the same, May 30.]

In our article last week on "The Spirit of the Press" we showed that the secular and literary press of the country is generally and growingly antagonistic to the acknowledged religious sentiment of the people—that sentiment being predominantly "evangelical." More and more, for some years, this antagonism has been taking form and emphasis, and now, from the *North American Review* down to the NEW YORK HERALD, it may be affirmed that the most powerful periodicals of the land are arrayed against the popular religious faith. The fact is menacing and startling, and is well deserving of the serious consideration of religious citizens. It can hardly be said to arise from an accidental cause. Its cause lies deep, we think, in a profound fact of American moral life. Religion among us tends to isolation—to isolation in sects, and, by an indirect but powerful consequence, to isolation of the sects from all the community who are not directly interested in religious matters. In all other countries the mass of the people, whatever their personal moral condition, have some relation to the dominant religion, some practical observance of it. They pertain to the Church. With us many individuals and families who are not its members nevertheless adhere to it respectfully; but a huge mass of population have not the slightest relation to it, and this country presents the spectacle nowhere else seen on the earth, and unknown in the history of the past, of perhaps millions of population who professedly have no religion, Christian, Jewish, or Heathen. We have no "national Church," and that fact, doubtless, explains this curious moral phenomenon to some extent. It is no argument, however, against the independence of church and State; it is only a proof that the "voluntary principle" is not yet matured among us; that its advocates have not yet done their full duty and provided for the incidental evils of a great good. Now this isolation of American religion we believe to be the primary and subtle cause of the isolation of our periodical literature, high and low, from religion. Reckless editors recognize no conventional restraint on religious subjects, because there is no conventional recognition of religion—at least, none distinct and formal enough to command their respect and to impose practical decorum in the treatment of its topics. Our "voluntary system" needs improvement; it needs to provide better for its own wants; and one of its most needed provisions is a secular press of its own. Our readers know well that we favor denominational organs, and esteem them a living and a mighty power; but the very existence of them, in their present form, has seemed to take religion away from the guardianship of the general press, and consign the latter over to mere worldliness, scepticism, and largely to vice itself. If each denomination had its own periodical organs, consecrated to its special ecclesiastical wants, and all the religious community—at least all of it that agrees essentially in the fundamentals of Christianity—could be combined in the support of a daily press conducted with suitable independence, and yet in conformity with the recognized evangelical sentiment and interest of the people, we believe they would furnish a triumphant vindication of the voluntary principle in this, as they have in many other respects. A metropolitan daily paper on such principles was once attempted, but not under right auspices. Its failure is no more an argument against the suggestion than the first failures of almost every great experiment are against all human progress. There is capital enough and good sense enough in this community to effectuate such a project, and we are astonished that it has not been manfully attempted. A few liberal minded Christian citizens of sufficient capital should combine for the purpose, securing to it a financial basis which would guarantee it against all odds for three or five years; make no pharisaic pretensions or announcements, but begin it and continue it as Christian men would any other business, on genuine Christian principles; man it with the best intellects that can be commanded, and let it tell its own story by exemplifying its principles rather than by asserting or obtruding them; by making itself equal to any other journal in all secular news and discussions, and superior to all others by its moral tone and its attention to religious news and interests. Let it be thus initiated, and we doubt not that in one year it will be the journal of most of our Christian families. As we now stand our intelligent people who take their Church organ must also have their daily paper; and as the Christianity of the land has made no provision for them in the latter respect, they must take into their homes the godless sheets we have mentioned or none. The practical enemies of religion have in each week six times the opportunity to demoralize them to one commanded by the Church journals. The suggestion applies equally to the higher periodical literature. We hesitate not to pronounce it an alarming and most scandalous fact that the Christian intellect of this nation has not to-day a single high periodical, a quarterly review, devoted to general literature and general interests; that the only organ of the highest thought of the country, aside from sectarian publications, is in the hands of reckless sceptics. The denominational quarterlies may have had in this respect the same kind of indirect effect which we have attributed to the Church weeklies. We must have our denominational organs of this kind as well as the hebdomadals. But could not many of the strong and polished intellects now addressing small, select coteries, through our religious quarterlies, be combined in a really national quarterly organ, devoted to general topics, and yet Christian in principle and temper? It is a remarkable and unaccountable fact that we have in all this country so small a showing of magazine literature suitable for a place in a Christian family. We are in monthly receipt of a large number of most valuable religious magazines from abroad, but of that class we have but very few of American origin. Here is an unoccupied field which we cannot doubt would abundantly repay cultivation. These are vital and national wants. We must have them. Give us but a few local examples, and it will not be long before the Christian sense of the country will generally establish them.

BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

PROSPECTIVE TROUBLE BETWEEN A JUSTICE AND A POLICE CAPTAIN.—A man named Richard Morris, barkeeper for John Bracken, of the corner of Pacific and Hicks streets, was arrested yesterday on the charge of having violated the Excise law. It is alleged that Bracken failed to renew his license for the ensuing year, and in selling liquor therefore violated the law. Instead of sending the accused before Justice Dunne, who adjudicates all cases from the Forty-third precinct, wherein this arrest was made, Captain Rhodes ordered him to be taken before Justice Buckley, at the City Hall, when the examination was set down for to-day. It is understood that Captain Rhodes caused this case to be sent before Justice Buckley in view of the decision recently delivered by Justice Dunne, in the South Brooklyn riot case (already published in the HERALD), where several parties were charged with violating the Excise law on a Sunday and assaulting an officer. From the testimony in the case, it appeared that the officers gained access to the barroom by a private entrance, and Justice Dunne, holding that they had do right to do this, discharged the party accused of violating the law. This is said to be the cause of Captain Rhodes' present course.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.—At an early hour yesterday morning a man named Thomas McGuire was accidentally shot, while riding in a Court street car, by the premature explosion of a pistol which he carried in one of his pockets. The wound, which was in the thigh, is of a severe, but not necessarily dangerous character. He was conveyed to his residence, corner of Water and Main streets, by a police officer.

SEIZURES OF TOBACCO AND CIGARS.—Deputy Collector Tobey yesterday reported the seizure of a wagon load of tobacco, belonging to Mr. Stausmann, of 120 North First street, E. D., on the charge that the property was not properly branded. The same officer reported the seizure of thirty-two thousand cigars and three cases of tobacco at the establishment of Joseph Vellenke, at 74 North Fourth street, E. D., on the charge that the owner had filed a bogus bond, as already reported.

CHURCH FESTIVAL.—On Friday evening the Ladies' Aid Society of the Gothic Methodist Episcopal church of Brooklyn will hold their annual strawberry and floral festival, in the lecture room of the church. Preparations have been made for a pleasant and sociable meeting of the young and old on this occasion.

FELONIOUS ASSAULTS.—Jacob Cook, a blacksmith by occupation, was yesterday arraigned before Justice Walter on a charge of feloniously assaulting Peter Miller, residing at the corner of Walton street and Throop avenue, Eastern district; but the complainant being unable to appear, in consequence of his injuries, the accused was remanded. The alleged assault occurred between eleven and twelve o'clock on Monday night, at a lager beer saloon in Walton street. It appears that Cook and Miller were friends and neighbors, and that the assault was committed by the former while he was intoxicated. The weapon used was a chisel, and Mr. Miller was stabbed three times—in the right temple, right hip and between the third and fourth ribs. The last of these wounds is of a serious nature, and it is believed by the attending physician that the chisel touched the lung. The injured man suffered considerably last evening, but his life was not thought in imminent peril.

Martin Hess, residing in Leonard street, near Boerum, E. D., was arraigned before the same justice on a charge of assaulting his brother-in-law, Philip Knabel, with an iron bar. He was held to answer. It is alleged that the accused visited Knabel's residence, in Meserole street, between Ewen and Leonard, E. D., about ten o'clock on Monday night, and found him in bed. He then, without assigned reason, struck Knabel on the top of the head with an iron bar, inflicting a wound of three inches in length, and also on the hip. The injuries, however, are not considered dangerous. The accused, it is said, was intoxicated at the time he committed the assault.

Yesterday afternoon, while an officer was attempting to arrest a disorderly man named Wallace, at 225 First street, E. D., the wife of the latter made an attempt to rescue him, when officer Thomas Langan, of the Forty-fifth precinct, went to his assistance. Mrs. Wallace then turned upon Langan and struck him upon the head with a piece of iron. She was thereupon arrested and locked up on a charge of felonious assault. This unfortunate officer is covered with wounds received in the discharge of his duty.

INJURED BY THE EXPLOSION OF A LAMP.—A man named Frank Cornell was severely injured by the explosion of a kerosene lamp at L. P. Israel's livery stable, Carlton avenue, near Myrtle, about eight o'clock last night. He was conveyed to the City Hospital.

A WILLIAMSBURG BURGLAR MEETS WITH A MISHAP.—At an early hour yesterday morning a burglar made an attempt to enter the residence of Mr. Thomas Hasback, 127 Montrose avenue, E. D., but met with a serious mishap. He first tried to pry open a rear window in the main building, but failed. He then managed to reach the roof of the extension, in attempting to cross which he fell through the skylight, cutting himself badly with the glass in his fall. Becoming alarmed at the predicament in which he was placed the fellow gave up all further attempt at robbery, and made his escape through the alley. A pool of blood was found where he fell, and his course of exit was discovered by his bloody tracks.

A CHARGE OF PICKING POCKETS NOT SUSTAINED.—John Siegel and Martin Schlisner, arrested on Monday evening on a charge of picking the pockets of John King of a watch and wallet, were yesterday arraigned on the charge before Justice Dailey. It appeared in evidence that the complainant and Mr. Siegel were engaged in a quarrel in the street at the time of the alleged offence, and that the former's watch fell out of his pocket during the quarrel. Siegel, who is a very respectable citizen, was therefore discharged. Schlisner was held for a further hearing.

THE HORSESHOERS' UNION OF BROOKLYN.—The Horseshoers' Union of Brooklyn met last evening at No. 170 Joralemon street, Dennis Kerrigan, the president, in the chair. It was resolved to cause a notice to be published in the papers that the society would insist that its members should quit work on every Saturday at four P. M. No other business of any interest was transacted.

LARGE FIRE IN BROOKLYN.

Two Men Scalded—Loss $35,000.

Shortly before three o'clock yesterday afternoon a boiler exploded at the turpentine and rosin manufactory of J. W. Blossom & Co., at the corner of Dikeman and Ferris streets, Brooklyn, when the fire in the furnace was scattered among the turpentine, and the place was immediately enveloped in flames. One of the laborers and the engineer, who were in the place at the time, were badly scalded and were taken to their homes. The firemen were promptly on the ground, but owing to the inflamable nature of the stock it was impossible to subdue the fire, and the buildings, machinery and stock of Messrs. Blossom & Co. were almost totally destroyed. The loss on stock is estimated at $15,000, and the loss on buildings and machinery will amount to about $8,000. There was no insurance on the property. The flames also communicated to the tar, pitch and rosin factory of Leavitt & Smith adjoining, where about five hundred barrels of crude turpentine was destroyed, together with a brick factory, machinery, &c., causing a loss of about $12,000, on which there was no insurance.

The immense volumes of black smoke which rolled up from the fire led the firemen and a large number of citizens to suppose the fire was but a short distance off, and the consequence was that a great many more ran to it than would have done so had they known the exact locality.