NEW YORK CITY.

THE COURTS.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT—IN ADMIRALTY.

The Collision Between the Ferryboat D. S. Gregory and the Steamboat George Washington—Action for Personal Injuries Resulting Therefrom.

Before Judge Blatchford.

Ann Cavan vs. The Ferryboat D. S. Gregory and the Steamboat George Washington.—The principal features in this case have already appeared, as they related to the injuries sustained by the plaintiff, who lays her damages at $10,000. The evidence taken in the case yesterday related principally to the management, or rather mismanagement, of the colliding boats. It appeared from the evidence so far taken that the only signals given of the approaching danger and warning to alter course came from the Gregory. The testimony is principally of a technical character. Case still on.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT—IN BANKRUPTCY.

Petitions Filed Yesterday.

Henry N. Titus, Yonkers, Westchester county—Referred to Register Close.

Morris Wartzfelder, New York city—Referred to Register Williams.

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONERS' COURT.

Seizure of an Illicit Distillery—Commitment of the Accused.

Before Commissioner Betts.

The United States vs. Jacob Lohenstein.—On Monday night the distillery of Jacob Lohenstein, 114th street, near First avenue, was seized on information that Lohenstein was illicitly distilling spirits therein. Collector O'Callaghan, of the Ninth district, acting on the information, made a descent on the premises and found a still in full operation. The distillery was at once put under seizure, and yesterday morning Lohenstein was brought before Commissioner Betts, who committed him for trial on the affidavit of the collector.

The Alleged Fraud Upon the Tradesmen's National Bank.

Before Commissioner Osborn.

The arguments in the case of Garness C. Baker, who is charged with having wilfully misapplied funds, the property of the Tradesmen's National Bank, were closed yesterday, Mr. John Sedgwick and Mr. D. C. Birdsall appearing for the defendant, and Mr. Bell and Mr. Phelps for the government. The Commissioner said he would give his decision in the matter before the close of the week.

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.

The Jumel Will Case Again—Appeal from the Order Granting the Commission.

Before Judges Barnard, Ingraham and Sutherland.

Champlain Bowen and Others vs. Nelson Chase and Others.—This case, the particulars of which have been already reported in the HERALD, came before this court yesterday on appeal from an order made at Special Term denying the application of the defendants to be permitted to make an oral cross-examination of persons who are now living in Rhode Island, on a commission appointed to take their testimony in reference to the pedigree of the descendants of Madame Jumel. The plaintiffs on that application desired that a commission should be issued to take testimony in response to written interrogatories, as the parties to be examined were unable, owing to extreme age and infirmity, to come to this city, and were also unable to withstand a promiscuous oral examination, and especially so inasmuch as the matters with regard to which they are to testify are events long since passed, and would put the memories of the witnesses to a severe test. The plaintiffs, it will be remembered, claim that the parties from whom defendants obtained their assignment of heirship, and who were brought forward at the trial in the spring of 1867, by virtue of the judgment in which the defendants became possessed of the vast estate of Madame Jumel, valued at nearly $1,000,000, were not the legitimate descendants of the testatrix, and that they (the plaintiffs) are her real and substantial heirs at law.

Charles O'Conor and James Carter appeared yesterday on behalf of the defendants, and contended that oral examination of the witnesses in the case was a substantial right, to which the defendants were entitled in law and equity, and not a discretionary privilege vested in the court.

Charles Tracy, for the plaintiffs, argued that the decision appealed from was made by the court below in the exercise of a purely discretionary right, and cannot be reviewed.

The Court reserved its decision.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT—PART 2.

Another Hatchway Accident—Suit for Damages.

Before Judge Mullin.

Barbara Motz vs. John Roach.—Plaintiff sues, as administratrix of her deceased husband, for the recovery of $5,000 damages from the defendant, who is the proprietor of an iron foundry in Rivington street. It appears that in February, 1864, the plaintiff's husband was employed at the defendant's establishment, and shortly after six o'clock one evening was found upon the floor of the building, severely injured, having fallen through a hatchway in a gallery, a distance of sixteen feet, which surrounded a room in the premises. Her husband died shortly afterwards from the effect of the injuries received. It appears that the gallery in question was used as a place of storage for finished work, and was not generally used as a thoroughfare, and the question in the case is as to whether the deceased had any right or necessity of passing along that way, and whether, if he had a right there, he was not negligent in having attempted to pass that way without a light, as it was then after dark.

At the hour of adjournment the jury had not rendered their verdict.

Storer vs. Allen.—In this case, reported in the HERALD of yesterday, and in which plaintiff sues for damages for the killing of his son by falling through a hatchway of defendant's premises, in Water street, the jury came into court yesterday morning, announced that they were unable to agree and were discharged.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

The Stuyvesant Divorce Case—Progress of the Suit.

Theodore Stuyvesant vs. Catherine L. Stuyvesant.—This notorious case, which has been so long before the courts, promises now to be concluded at an early day, the testimony for the plaintiff having been all taken and the evidence for the defence commenced. Yesterday afternoon the examination of Thomas Bowran, the plaintiff's brother-in-law, and with whom Mrs. Stuyvesant is charged with having had illicit intercourse while he was boarding in plaintiff's family, was begun before Isaac Dayton, the referee appointed by this court to take the testimony in the case and report to the court, with his opinion thereon. The testimony, so far as taken, was in rebuttal of the charges of adultery made against defendant and alleged to have been committed with this witness, Edwin James and George Shea conducting the examination on behalf of the defendant and Messrs. A. B. Phillips and Patterson on the part of the plaintiff. The examination of Mr. Bowran was not concluded and the further hearing was adjourned until Monday next.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Before Judge Russel.

At the opening of the court Stephen T. Curran, who heretofore pleaded guilty to forgery in the third degree, was sent to the State Prison for four years.

DEFRAUDING A SAVINGS BANK.

John E. Schaefer was tried and convicted of forgery in the third degree. The evidence showed that the prisoner on the 24 inst. opened an account with the Citizens' Savings Bank and deposited $5; that he altered the figures to $500, and that he gave a check for $40 to another party, who by presenting the book and the check drew this sum. The prisoner then gave another similar check for $44 to a gentleman in payment of a loan, which, when presented at the bank for payment, was kept and steps taken for the arrest of Schaefer. The City Judge, in passing sentence, said that the banks must be protected by making an example of the prisoner, who was sent to the State Prison for five years.

Charles Burgess pleaded guilty to an attempt at grand larceny, he having embezzled the sum of $33 from his employers, Arnold, Constable & Co. He was remanded for sentence.

John Davis, charged with burglariously entering the liquor store of Thos. Murtagh, 138 Grand street, on the 10th inst., pleaded guilty to an attempt, and was sent to the State Prison for two years.

Morris Keiffer was charged with stealing $60 worth of leather for pocketbooks, the property of Mathias Groh. The prisoner stated, and produced a newspaper to corroborate him, that there was a fire in the shop where he was manufacturing the pocketbooks, and that the leather was destroyed. There being doubts as to his guilt, the jury rendered a verdict of not guilty.

COURT CALENDAR—THIS DAY.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.—Nos. 52, 82, 102, 119, 146, 148, 136, 153, 159, 33, 46, 54, 66, 80, 81, 141, 142, 1, 8, 23, 24, 58, 72, 76, 139, 144, 30, 44, 51, 60, 68, 69, 73, 92, 98, 99, 101, 111, 135, 136, 145, 32, 56, 58, 63, 64, 65, 70, 75, 110, 121, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 26, 27, 31, 33, 34, 43, 55, 59, 71, 77, 89, 90, 116, 122, 123, 131, 28, 41, 42, 49, 88, 100, 125, 152, 153, 93, 95, 96.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT—Part 1.—Nos. 2950, 685, 849, 813, 953, 977, 913, 903, 179, 375, 355, 209, 717, 675, 819, 598, 668, 761, 413, 479. Part 2—Nos. 825, 778, 892, 624, 810, 272, 212, 134, 818, 820, 762, 890, 906, 378, 176, 484, 746, 494, 536, 932.

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.—Nos. 65, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 352, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95.

SUPREME COURT—HABEAS.—Nos. 14, 58, 60, 64, 96, 97, 98, 127, 136, 137, 143, 144, 146, 147, 150, 175, 181, 183, 189, 190.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM.—Part 1—Nos. 1373, 3623, 3453, 3635, 3637, 3479, 3569, 3513, 3507, 3535, 3625, 2947, 3585, 3579, 2585, 525, 3373. Part 2—Nos. 3644, 3256, 3772, 1774, 3702, 3802, 1550, 3338, 1708, 1710, 1714, 1716, 1720, 1722, 1724.

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM.—Nos. 105, 131, 33, 53, 84, 85, 42, 14, 101, 104, 57, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE WIEGAND HOMICIDE.—Coroner Flynn continued the inquest yesterday in the case of the death of John Wiegand. Drs. L. C. Morton and T. C. Finnell testified as to the nature of the wounds received by deceased, and stated that they had all the appearance of gunshot wounds. The Coroner said that as there appeared to be no evidence against Henry Pauli and William Christman he should use them as witnesses. Their testimony, however, was unimportant, and they will be released from custody. As it had been clearly proven that firearms had been discharged at the time of the occurrence he had ordered the arrest of Mosbach, it having been shown that a revolver was found in his possession. Several witnesses having been examined the testimony was closed and the case given to the jury.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The bills of mortality in New York and Brooklyn last week scarcely varied from those of the previous week. There were 441 deaths in the former and 136 in the latter city, besides twelve others that occurred in streets beyond city limits of the latter. The amount of mortality in the charitable institutions and asylums was excessive, being no less than 126 in the public institutions of the two counties of New York and Kings. Measles and scarlatina are the only zymotic diseases which show any tendency to increase, the fatality of measles increasing in New York and the ravages of scarlatina extending in the Sixth, Ninth and Sixteenth wards in Brooklyn.

THE TRAVELLERS' CLUB—DU CHAILLU.—The members of the Traveller's Club give a reception to Mr. Du Chaillu this evening at the club house in Fifth avenue. On this occasion Mr. Du Chaillu will exhibit to the club and its invited guests some diagrams and pictures of African scenery, men and women, animals, &c., from his own sketches, which have not before been shown in this country. The occasion promises to be a very interesting one. The public will be interested to know that Mr. Du Chaillu will deliver three lectures on the gorilla, African travel and adventure, in Steinway Hall, on the 17th, 24th and 26th of February, in which these pictures and diagrams will be used.

THE BOARD OF EXCISE.—The Board of Excise held their regular weekly meeting yesterday afternoon, the President, Judge Bosworth, in the chair. A calendar of seven cases was disposed of. The licenses of the following named persons were revoked:—Joseph Thorne, 195 Mott street; Martin Oakley, 113 Mott street; John Train, 124 Attorney street. There was quite a gathering of liquor dealers in the trial room during the proceedings.

THE FARMERS' CLUB.—The regular meeting of this club took place yesterday at Cooper Institute. Nearly the entire session was taken up in discussing the merits and demerits of the wild lands of Long Island. The question was suggested to the club by the written protest of Long Islanders against the misrepresentations made in reports of the club, and one of its members named N. C. Meeker, that the wild lands of the island were not fit for cultivation, to which charge Mr. Meeker put in a plea of justification on the ground that he had been so informed by farmers on the island. Mr. Stone, of Long Island, appeared in defence of the island, and declared that many farmers on the island were making fortunes by the cultivation of these wild lands. Dr. Hexaminer, of New Castle, Del., read an able paper on the germination of the potato, in which much scientific information was given. One of most interesting statements made was that of seventy potato seeds (without eyes) planted by him thirty-five of them germinated and produced fine large potatoes.

MERCANTILE TOWING ASSOCIATION.—Last evening the regular meeting of this association was held at their rooms, Washington Hotel. L. Boyer presided. The secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved. Several reports from the Executive Committee were ordered to lie on the table. Captain A. Berry delivered a lengthened address on the rights of steam tug owners, in which he adverted to what he considered the injustice of the present Hell Gate pilot laws. Captain Boggs moved a vote of thanks for the address and suggested the propriety of its being printed in pamphlet form, which was agreed to. The meeting then adjourned.

DANGEROUS SIDEWALKS.—The sidewalks of the principal streets in the city are in a slippery and dangerous condition. Tenants of houses and occupants of stores have, as a general rule, neglected to comply with the city ordinance relative to clearing them of snow, and the police authorities, whose well defined duty it is to enforce the law in this respect, have fallen into apathy and neglect on the subject. The result is that from successive snow storms large hummocks of ice have accumulated, and serious accidents daily occur by persons falling on the ice. On Monday night Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas fell on the ice in Eleventh street and broke one of her legs. She was removed to Bellevue Hospital. On the same night Mr. Joseph Baylis fell on the walk while turning the corner of Twenty-sixth street and Lexington avenue, sustaining a compound fracture of his right arm. The above are but a few of the many cases that occur daily. The policemen should enforce the city ordinances in regard to cleaning sidewalks of snow and ice.

"THE DRIFT OF LONG ISLAND."—Such was the subject of a highly interesting and scientific lecture delivered last night at the Cooper Institute, before a small audience, by Professor JAS. E. MILLS. The lecturer opened by tracing the geological and topographical formations of the continent, and Long Island more especially, which he illustrated by maps. His theory is that Long Island was at one time covered by water, on the surface of which huge glaciers of ice floated and contended against the sea. The formations of the hills on the island clearly show that the land was sinking while the beach was forming, and that much of the material of which the present beach is formed was carried down by the glaciers from New Jersey, a distance of twenty-seven miles. Taken as a whole, the lecture was one of the ablest delivered before the Association for the Advancement of Science and Art.

A SAD CASE.—The police yesterday afternoon found a man by the name of Hyram Nicholas, in Fifty-eighth street, lying on the sidewalk in a destitute and dying condition. He was conveyed to Bellevue Hospital.

INQUESTS BEFORE CORONER SCHIRMER.—An inquest was held at Bellevue Hospital yesterday on the body of Joseph Wagner, the boy, thirteen years of age, whose death was the result of injuries accidentally received by falling from a Second avenue car on Sunday last. George William Biesell, a little boy four years of age, died at the residence of his parents, No. 65 Laurens street, from the effects of scalds received on the 17th instant by the accidental upsetting upon him of a kettle of boiling water. Francis McGraw, thirty years of age and a native of Ireland, died yesterday at Bellevue Hospital from the effects of injuries received some days ago by falling from a wagon. Mary Corrigan, an Irish woman, twenty-one years of age, died at No. 243 East Twenty-second street from the effects of burns received by the explosion of a kerosene oil lamp about a week since.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

ATTEMPT TO SWINDLE THE BROADWAY BANK.—Yesterday morning a lad, about sixteen years of age, named Frank Kircher, was brought before Justice Dowling, at the Tombs, by officer Collard, of the Twenty-sixth precinct, on the charge of presenting to Mr. Arthur T. J. Rose, paying teller of the Broadway National Bank, for payment, a check for $375, purporting to have been drawn by the firm of Messrs. Smith & Crane, doing business at No. 74 Wooster street, to the order of Shearer Jones, and bearing date January 18, 1868. Mr. Rose at once discovered the check to be a forgery, and detained the boy Kircher till the officer arrived and took him in charge. The prisoner, who appeared to be perfectly innocent in the matter, said the check had been given to him by a stranger in the street, who asked him to go to the bank and get the money on it. He pretends to know nothing further concerning the forgery. Mr. Thomas H. Smith, of the firm of Smith & Crane, was called, and testified that his firm keep an account in the Broadway National Bank, and that the signature of himself and partner to the check was a forgery, it not having been written by any one connected with his firm. Justice Dowling committed the prisoner for further examination.

CAPTURE OF ALLEGED PICKPOCKETS.—Yesterday afternoon Captain Garland, of the Fourteenth precinct, and officer Oates appeared at the Tombs Police Court having in custody Emma Johnson, with several aliases, and Thomas McCormick, charged with being concerned in the attempt to pick the pocket of Bridget Callahan, living in 112th street, between Third and Fourth avenues, of $30 in Treasury notes. Bridget, having left the Bleecker Street Savings Bank, proceeded to Broadway, where she felt the prisoner's hand in her pocket and seized hold of her. Emma pulled away and jumped into a stage. She was pursued by officer Oates and arrested, after which Bridget discovered that the pocket of her dress had been partially cut off, but the money was safe. On the way to the station house, and while at the corner of Broadway and Prince street, Emma raised her muff as if beckoning to some one, soon after which the prisoner McCormick came alongside of her and she passed something to him. The officer immediately seized the hand of McCormick, when he dropped a small penknife. The suspected parties were committed by Justice Dowling to wait an examination. The prisoner Emma was arrested in Saratoga last summer on the charge of stealing from a lady's pocket a purse containing a large amount of money and a safe key. On an examination she was discharged, and subsequently the safe of the victimized woman's husband living on Thirty-fourth street was opened and robbed of $8,000 in bonds and ready money. That the safe was opened and plundered by some thief who had possession of the stolen key there can scarcely be a doubt. Emma is considered unusually skilful in the light-fingered art, but heretofore she has been very successful in getting out of trouble.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—On half-past two o'clock yesterday morning, while Charles Trippel was standing in a doorway on the Bowery, near Hester street, in conversation with a friend, a man approached him, seized the guard chain to his watch, and with a jerk that detached it from its fastening in his vest, pulled the watch from its pocket and ran into Canal street, followed by Trippel, who called many times "Watch!" and "Stop thief!" Officer Herring, of the Tenth precinct, observing a man hastening through Canal street, followed and overtook him between Corrystie and Forsyth streets. He questioned the man as to his haste, when he answered that he was hurrying home, and pulling out a night key said that would gain him admission to his domicile. The officer, however, compelled him to return with him toward the Bowery, where they met Trippel, who at once identified the man as the person who had robbed him of his chain and watch, both of gold. Yesterday, when taken before Justice Shandley, the accused gave his name as Richard Hays and his residence as the corner of Forsyth and Canal streets. He protested his innocence. The final examination of Hays on the charge of highway robbery will be held to-day at two o'clock.

THE BANK OF THE REPUBLIC ROBBERY.

Additional Facts Relative to the Capture of the Alleged Thieves—How the Police Got Their Information.

It would appear that the means by which the detectives were put upon the track of the alleged robbers of the Bank of the Republic were not so extraordinary nor so mysterious as certain of the detectives concerned would have the public to believe. The facts in the case which relate to the arrest of Edwin Weed are as follows:—A money broker in this city was called upon on Saturday afternoon by Weed, who had been previously in the habit of paying him occasional business visits. Weed stated that he desired to borrow $1,500, and when asked what collateral he was to give he mentioned Missouri bonds. The broker told him that he would give him the check for the amount at his brother's office on Monday, at which place at a certain hour he could bring the collateral. The broker's brother-in-law happening into the office shortly after Weed's departure, the former spoke of the loan desired by Weed, when the brother-in-law called his attention to the fact that the Bank of the Republic had a few days before lost certain Missouri bonds, and that in all probability the bonds held by Weed were the identical bonds that had been stolen; and in this belief he was all the more strengthened by the revelation, as it is alleged, that Weed's name had occupied a prominent niche of notoriety in the Lord bond robbery revelations. The broker, who had not before given a thought to these circumstances, on being thus reminded of the character of the person with whom he had to deal and the discretion that was necessary to be observed in keeping his brother-in-law's suspicions from all but official ears, the following day (Sunday) paid a visit to Inspector Leonard, of the Metropolitan Police, at the latter's residence, and made him acquainted with the fact of Weed's visit to his place and the kind of collateral that had been promised. He, moreover, informed the inspector that he was not desirous of appearing in the case, and had called upon him merely as a personal acquaintance in order that he might do as he saw fit in the matter. As the broker was unwilling to go to Police Headquarters and thus make himself known in the capture that was to ensue, and as Inspector Leonard had other police occupations to engage his attention just at the time, Weed was to call for the check and deposit the security bonds. The latter hurried to the Central office the following morning, and accosting the first detective he met in the building he communicated to him the fact of Weed's proposed visit, &c., and then accompanied him to within a short distance of the broker's office. Of course the detective in question, with Weed as it were placed under his very nose, had no alternative but to arrest him the moment he called in the office and it had been ascertained to a certainty that the bonds the suspected man deposited as collateral were of the numbers of the bonds stolen from the bank. Weed once arrested and readily confessing that he had received the bonds from Miles Murray, with whom he was to have an appointment on Sixth street and Second avenue the very morning of the arrest, the apprehension of Murray was a very tame affair.

Examination of the Prisoners Before Justice Dowling.

Miles Murray, a man of sporting proclivities, and Edwin A. Weed, arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the abstraction of $15,000 in United States five-twenty and Missouri bonds from the National Bank of the Republic on the 15th inst., as heretofore fully reported in the HERALD, were yesterday brought before Justice Dowling, at the Tombs, for a hearing.

James P. Cunningham, discount clerk of the National Bank of the Republic, living at 329 Pearl street, Brooklyn, testified to the larceny of the bonds (heretofore described in the HERALD) and identified the bonds found in possession of the defendants as a portion of those stolen from the desk in the bank on the day in question. The bonds were the property of Messrs. Cohen & Hogan, No. 1 Wall street, and had been given to the witness by Mr. Henry W. Ford, cashier of the bank, to examine, preparatory to making a loan to Cohen & Hagan.

Mr. Ford testified to handing the funds to the first witness for the purposes above described, and subsequently learning that they had been feloniously abstracted from a pigeon hole in Mr. Cunningham's desk.

Detective Philip Farley deposed to arresting the defendant, Weed, in Broadway, and finding in his possession two of the stolen bonds. Subsequently Murray was taken into custody, at which time he had in his pockets eight of the bonds alleged to have been stolen from the Bank of the Republic. In explanation Weed said he received the bonds found with him from Murray, while the latter stated Weed had given him the bonds found in his possession. The above are the material facts elicited thus far in the investigation.

Counsel for the defendants made application for their liberation on bail, and the magistrate said he would hold them in $10,000 bonds each to await the result of an examination, after which both Weed and Murray sent for bondsmen.

Counsel for Murray demanded a separate examination, which was granted, but no definite time fixed for it to proceed.

Judge Stuart, who appeared for Weed, demanded a speedy trial, as he intended to establish the innocence of his client, and it was set down for one o'clock this afternoon.

Just previous to the closing of the court John Coffee, of 120 West Forty-third street, appeared and entered into bonds for Murray's future appearance; but Weed, being less fortunate, was committed to prison.

CITY POLITICS.

THE FENTON CENTRAL CAMPAIGN CLUB, of which Joshua G. Abbe is President, held a special meeting last evening at the St. Nicholas Hotel, the President in the chair. The Secretary announced that there were at present eighteen distinct organizations in this city in full and complete working order. Mr. Abbe, after alluding to the fact that as in his opinion the time was fast approaching when it would be essential to the success of the ends for which the club had been organized there should be an Executive Committee ready for active work, announced the following named gentlemen as such committee:—E. D. Culver, Freeman J. Fithian, John Cochrane, Charles P. Shaw, N. Kingsley, Sr., William Burns, Dr. F. A. Thomas, R. C. Brown, Thomas C. Williams, William H. McKinney, Joseph H. Kilery, A. J. H. Duganne, Benjamin Shafer, Sinclair Tousey, William T. Ashman, Dr. Fred A. Scheuter, William Drummond, Robert L. Darragh, David D. Conover, Thomas Mulligan, George C. Ellison, Henry M. Williams, William H. De Camp, Samuel S. Urny, Ira O. Miller, John C. Graff, Benjamin Merritt, Alexander McLeod, F. T. Locke, Jacob M. Patterson, Jr., James E. McVeany, John W. Farmer, Ethan Allen, James Winterbottom, Major Charles S. Strong, Charles E. Gildersleve, James Blackwell, Allen Cooper, John Fitch, John Galler, John D. Stilwell, Simon Hasleton. The meeting then adjourned.

CENTRAL GRANT CLUB.—The regular meeting of this club was held last night at its headquarters, corner of Twenty-third street and Broadway. About forty people were present. The meeting was called to order about eight o'clock by the President, Rufus F. Andrews. In the absence of the secretary, George Van Nort was appointed *pro tem.* The Chairman, after calling for the reports of committees and receiving none, announced that the position of treasurer was vacant, when John Keyser was elected by a unanimous vote to fill the vacancy. A discussion arose in relation to the subject of corresponding with the different Grant campaign clubs throughout the country, looking forward to the holding of a convention previous to the republican convention, which will take place in Chicago on the 18th of May. Many suggested the propriety of holding the convention in Chicago, while others advocated the claims of New York as the proper place in which the gathering should assemble. The question was finally settled by referring the matter to the Corresponding Committee, after which the meeting adjourned.

BOARD OF AUDIT.

At the meeting of this Board yesterday, Messrs. Bonnet, Marlindale and Stewart present, the claim of the Washington Insurance Company for taxes alleged to have been erroneously assessed on the capital stock during the years 1861 and 1862, amounting to $5,872 53 was heard.

By special act of the Legislature in 1864 the taxes on as much of the capital stock of banks and insurance companies as was invested in United States securities were remitted, and the companies now present claims for the refunding of assessments levied by the county on their capital invested in United States securities during the years 1861 and 1862.

Corporation Counsel O'Gorman was in attendance, assisted by Mr. Trull, and opposed the claim on the grounds that the defendants, the city and county of New York, have no agency or jurisdiction in the imposition or collection of taxes; that it was a matter for the State Legislature to settle by special act, and that in this case, as the payment of the tax was voluntary, no redress could now be claimed.

The officers of the company testified to the payment under protest of the several sums set forth in the claim. The Commissioners took the papers and will examine into the law on the case.

The claim of the Bank of the Commonwealth was set down for Tuesday next, and those of the other banks and insurance companies were set down for Tuesday, February 11.

To-day the case of Mrs. Eliza S. Cox will be continued.

LONG ISLAND INTELLIGENCE.

THE RECENT STABBING AFFAIR AT BALDWINSVILLE—DEATH OF THE WOUNDED MAN.—The man Smith, who was injured in an affray with one Geary, at Baldwinsville, last Friday, has died from the effects of his wounds. He continued in a state of insensibility up to the time of his decease. Geary has been arrested, and will probably be indicted on a charge of murder at the next session of the Grand Jury. From the number of different statements in relation to the affair which are being circulated on all sides it is difficult to determine anything like the truth, which will, however, probably transpire at the Coroner's inquest.

RECONSTRUCTION.

THE VIRGINIA STATE CONVENTION.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

The Approaches to the Convention—Scene in the Rotunda—Ladies in the Galleries—Apportionment and Representation—Extraordinary Resolution by a Conservative—Congress, Reconstruction and the Convention Denounced as Unconstitutional—Spicy and Warm Debate—The Elective Franchise—Colored Lecturess—Profanity in the Body.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 11, 1868.

Wending your way from the Post Office, on Main street, to the Capitol Building, in which sits the Constitutional Convention, a steep but picturesque hill has to be ascended, and in a few minutes you are at the portals of the Capitol. About twelve M., the hour the Convention assembles, if you approach by either the eastern or western entrance, the granite steps on both sides are found bedotted over with negroes, sitting, lounging and hanging about—for what purpose is a mystery—but here they daily assemble. Entering the Rotunda, in the centre of which is a beautifully executed marble statue of Washington, surrounded by an iron railing, and from which the doors open into both the Senate chamber and hall of the House of Delegates—in the latter of which the Convention sits—a strange scene for Virginia is presented. Here you halt in amazement, and with some misgivings if destined to a privileged seat on the floor of the Convention, for the place is literally thronged with Africans, and such a jam at the door that one has to undergo a severe crushing and elbowing in reaching it. In the corners and as much out of the way as possible are a number of stands, from which negro women dispense peanuts, apples, ginger cakes and tobacco, and what with tobacco chewing and spitting, pipe-smoking and peanut eating, the place is not one to be sought from choice. Daily the dignity of the sable delegates is offended by their brethren when they endeavor to reach the door of the House, as there is nothing in their color to distinguish them from the mass of African humanity so firmly packed around its approaches. The plain people that enter have to push and puff and elbow before they can obtain the ear of the doorkeeper, who is ensconced inside the door. This official recognizing the struggling conventioneer, extends a helping hand, and with "a long pull and a strong pull" he is extricated from his perilous position and safely landed within the sacred precincts of the House, when the door is again closed until the same thing is repeated. To-day your correspondent narrowly escaped being crushed to death in this negro throng, and but that the Great Mogul himself came to his rescue, making the way clear for two Northern ladies to the floor, he had serious fears of being able to forward this report. In the galleries to-day a new feature was visible, for one of them was appropriated to "ladies" of color exclusively, and a large number of the fair, varying in complexion from the most sable hued negro to the clear, creamy, olive-colored mulatto, smiled benignantly upon the body, and by their dark rolling eyes gave a new zeal to the members, inspiring the sable delegates particularly with more than ordinary dignity. The other gallery was as usual densely packed with Africans, threatening its safety and making it more than ordinary risk to stand under it, though some unsuspecting persons did so.

The proceedings were opened with the following report, which was submitted by the Committee on the Basis of Representation and Apportionment:—

1. Statement showing the number of white and colored citizens listed for taxation in 1866, above the age of twenty-one.

2. Statement of the registered voters, under the Reconstruction acts, and how the apportionment would stand on that basis.

3. Statement of the population in 1860 by counties, showing how the apportionment would stand on that basis.

4. Showing the number of votes cast at the Presidential election in 1860, and the vote per centum as compared with the population of 1860.

5. Showing the value of real estate in 1860 and the personal property in the same year.

After considerable discussion, in which some radical members took the ground that the present registration lists offered the most perfect basis of representation and would avoid the expense of the plan submitted by the committee, the report was adopted and ordered to be printed.

The proceedings were here interrupted by Mr. Williamson, conservative member from New York, who rose to a point of order, and said that, notwithstanding the janitor had been ordered to open the windows, because of the densely crowded state of the house and its consequent odor, for the exit of the foul air and the admission of the pure, the audience in the galleries had closed them in defiance of the wishes of the House, to the discomfort of the members and to the very serious peril of their personal health. These remarks were seconded and endorsed by a number of conservative members, when the Chair ruled that as the audience were privileged in being admitted they must abide by the wishes of the members and the windows should be left open. This matter settled, with admission of a fresh supply of air the House breathed more freely and Mr. Liggatt expanded his lungs to the fullest extent and read a resolution which declared everything now in progress to be revolutionary, from Congress to the Convention.

The reading of this resolution was listened to with considerable impatience by the radical members of the house. At its conclusion half a dozen members jumped from their seats, some with motions, some with points of order, but all highly indignant.

Mr. Clements, radical, a Northern man, had a "point of order." He contended that a resolution ignoring the authority of the Convention could not be received by the house, and he moved it be so ruled by the Chair.

Mr. Curtis, radical, hoped, with indignation fully expressed, that the resolution would not be received.

Mr. Bland, the most youthful negro in the Convention, moved the report be indefinitely postponed.

The Chair rose to quell some of the confusion then extending over the whole house, and, in reply to Clements, who was pressing his motion, that the resolution ignored the authority of the Convention, said it did not ignore, but denied the authority of the Convention, which was quite a material difference. He was of opinion, however, that the resolution should not be received.

Mr. Bowden, radical, native to the manor born, moved that the resolution be received and ordered to be printed. He was in favor of seeing and reading and attentively considering every such document, and he therefore wanted it laid upon the table and ordered to be printed. Mr. O. H. Hine, intensely radical and one of the best workers on that side of the house, moved that the resolution be laid finally on the table.

Mr. C. I. Thomas, native radical and leader, was of opinion that by laying the resolution on the table the House received it, and he urged a vote upon the motion of Mr. Curtis not to receive.

Curtis, however, did not take the same view, and withdrew his motion, and a vote being taken upon Hine's motion to lay upon the table resulted—yeas 69, nays 23. It was laid upon the table.

Mr. Bowden then pressed his motion to print it, which, upon a vote, showed 48 yeas and 44 nays, and it will be printed.

Mr. Joseph Cox, sable delegate from this city, offered a resolution that the Committee on Elective Franchise and Qualification be instructed to enrollt in the constitution a clause that the General Assembly shall from time to time provide for the registration of all electors as follows:—

1. Those who, during the rebellion, inflicted any cruel punishment upon any soldier, sailor or employé of the United States; and

2. Those who may be disfranchised by the sixteenth article of the constitution of the United States known as the constitutional amendment, and all those who have been disqualified from voting for delegates to this Convention under the Reconstruction acts and the acts supplementary thereto.

This resolution was appropriately referred without discussion, and then a lecturess (a colored lady) was introduced to the House in the shape of a resolution by Mr. Hine, asking that the hall be given to her to-night to deliver a lecture. Permission was granted, and Mrs. E. W. Harper lectures here to-night.

The order of the day was then taken up, and after a short discussion, and without accomplishing anything, the Convention adjourned.

THE GEORGIA STATE CONVENTION.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Debate on the Resolution Asking Congress for Power to Remove the State Officers—Bold Denunciations of the Measure by Messrs. Trammell, Miller and Akerman—Plots and Designs of the Majority.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 11, 1868.

It will be remembered that when I closed my letter of yesterday I predicted that the question under discussion by the Convention would become the subject of sharp debate and would materially protract the session. On yesterday afternoon, when the hour of adjournment arrived, Mr. Trammell, who had spoken against time for the purpose of preventing a vote, held the floor, and this morning, after the journal was read, he resumed his speech on the same subject. To give the reader a fair idea of the question I append the resolution:—

Resolved, That we, the representatives of the people of Georgia, in convention assembled, respectfully represent to the Congress of the United States that it is essential to the successful execution of the Reconstruction laws that the provisional government of this State should be executed by such persons only as are made eligible by the following clause of the sixth section of the "Act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States," viz.:—"And no person shall be eligible to any office under any such provisional government who would be disqualified from holding office under the provisions of the fifth article of said constitutional amendment"—said section three of said amendment being, "No person shall be eligible who, having previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State to support the constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof." And we therefore respectfully recommend that this convention be clothed with an operative authority the same as delegated to the district commander, in section two of the Supplemental Reconstruction act, passed July 19, 1867.

Resolved, That the secretary be and he is hereby instructed to transmit at once a copy of this resolution to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the President of the Senate.

Mr. Trammell said that he congratulated himself at having saved the civil government of Georgia for one day longer. The object of the resolution was to crush out the last vestige of civil government in the State; it was to rear up an oligarchy represented by the Convention, and he would never consent to it. The radical majority appeared to have forgotten the purpose for which this body had assembled. It was to frame a constitution, and not to appoint civil officers. The Reconstruction laws did not give them that authority; Congress had not given it, and he could not see the slightest necessity for it. He had accepted the Sherman-Shellabarger bill, not because he approved of it, but because he thought that under its provisions we might have our political problem solved. He, therefore, held the members to that bill, and he insisted that they should confine themselves within its limitations. The resolution offered was not only in bad taste, but it was a direct reflection upon Major General Meade; it implied that the Convention lacked confidence in the purpose of the General to exercise the powers vested in him by the law—powers which were identical with those that the resolution asked for. He therefore offered as a substitute the following, which was read:—

Resolved, That our confidence in the firmness, ability and fidelity of Major General George G. Meade is full and complete; that we hereby express our opinion that he comes amongst us to execute the laws of the United States; that his powers are ample and complete, and that he has the will to effect the restoration of the State to its full relations as a State of the Union.

Mr. Trammell resumed, saying that his resolution covered the whole ground, and he would either compel the Convention to support it, or, by voting it down, to express a want of confidence in the General. If, as the majority had claimed, their motive was pure, they need go no further. He was, however, afraid that the real purpose was too plain to the whole country. The spoils of office were being scented by vultures, and there would be no end to this agitation until the offices of the State were in the hands of those who desired to plunder the treasury.

Mr. Trammell here gave way to Mr. Miller of this county (Fulton), who, after the resolution of Mr. Ashburn had been again read, made the ablest speech yet delivered in the Convention.

He commenced by saying that he would not use the language appropriate to describe the conduct of the movers of the resolution, who, after moving to suspend the rules for the purpose of taking up the motion to print, had endeavored to call the previous question upon the original resolution. Referring to the resolution, he opposed it because it was utterly unnecessary. He saw no necessity for a change in the Reconstruction laws, and he saw no necessity for a change in the civil administration of the State. Besides the power to make removals was in the hands of the commander of the District and of General Grant. What did the delegates want in addition? He regretted exceedingly having to say that he had observed a disposition on the part of members to ignore everything they had been called to do in their eagerness to get possession of the State offices. From day to day before the hour of adjournment arrived an effort would be made at the State treasury, and the hydra head would be reared looking for spoils. After ably pointing out the want of necessity or excuse for the resolution, Mr. Miller proceeded to discuss its impracticability. It proposed, he said, to declare vacant the civil offices of the State and to give the Convention power to fill the vacancies. There were over six thousand civil offices in Georgia, and for this body to elect that number would be to consume a lifetime. Besides it was proposed that none but "loyal" men should hold office—none but men who could take the test oath, and there were not six thousand such men in Georgia. Who would they make their Governor under the projected régime? Certainly not a citizen of Georgia according to the constitution. Perhaps it would be the gentleman from Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, New England,