TELEGRAPHIC NEWS
FROM
ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

ENGLAND.

Lord Derby Advised from the Tabernacle—Mail Communication to New York.

LONDON, Jan. 30, 1868.

Rev. Newman Hall, in an address delivered in the tabernacle of Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, urged Lord Stanley to bring the Alabama claims to a speedy settlement.

The city article of the *London Times* this morning says though no steamer of the North German Lloyd's line will leave Southampton this week for New York, there will be no delay in the transmission of the mails, as they will be taken out in the Cunard steamer from Liverpool and Queenstown.

The Bank Return.

LONDON, Jan. 30—Evening.

The weekly returns of the Bank of England show that the amount of bullion in the vaults has increased £119,000 since the last report of January 23.

IRELAND.

Arrest of a Head Centre.

LONDON, Jan. 30, 1868.

A despatch was received to-day from Cork announcing that Marcus Adams, a Head Centre of the Fenian Brotherhood, was arrested in that city late last evening.

FRANCE.

The Liberty of the Press—Discussion in the Chambers.

PARIS, Jan. 30—Evening.

An interesting debate occurred to-day in the Corps Legislatif. The new project of law for the government of the press was the subject of discussion.

M. Thiers, in a speech of great power in opposition to the law, urged the importance of allowing entire freedom to the press, except only in cases where the sanctity of private life or the acts of foreign magnates are concerned. In eloquent terms he warned the government not to allow the opportunity to pass of bestowing privileges upon the press, the neglect of which has cost the ruin of so many dynasties.

M. Pinard in reply deprecated the granting of any further liberty to the press, and in the course of his remarks said that since the concessions were proposed a year ago the French journals have proved unmistakably their entire unfitness for the liberty which their advocates profess a desire to secure.

ROME.

Disposition and Movements of the French Army.

PARIS, Jan. 30—Evening.

Intelligence has been received to-night from Rome that General Failly, the commander of the French expeditionary corps, is about to return to France with one division of the troops sent to relieve the Pope from the designs of Garibaldi and the party of action. The remainder of the forces will remain in Rome under the command of General Dumont.

GERMANY.

The Freedom of Parliamentary Debate.

BERLIN, Jan. 30, 1868.

Herr Twesten, the member of the North German Parliament who was arrested some time since for alleged improper language used in debate, has at length been discharged. The prisoner was subjected to a slight pecuniary fine.

It is thought that the decided position taken by the Parliament that members ought not to be held accountable in any other place for words spoken in debate contributed in no small degree to this merely nominal punishment.

CALIFORNIA.

Commercial and Marine Intelligence.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 30, 1868.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamship Constitution sailed to-day for Panama, with $1,093,000 in treasure, $1,063,000 of which is for New York.

Sailed—Ships Queen of the East, for Liverpool, with 35,000 sacks of wheat, and Anne Mary, for Liverpool, with 22,500 sacks of wheat.

The bark Victoria from London, with a cargo of lumber for Calino, went ashore on Point Wilson, Puget Sound, January 27.

The bark Prince of Wales sailed from Victoria for London January 24.

Navigation on the Columbia and Willamette rivers is still closed by ice.

Flour has advanced 25c. per bbl.; extra, $7 75 a $8 25; superfine, $7 a $7 50; shipped, 1,000 bbls., by the steamer Constitution for New York. Wheat firm at $2 55. Legal tenders 72½.

MISSOURI.

Exciting Scene at St. Louis—Two Hundred People on the Floating Ice—No Lives Lost.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 30, 1868.

About four o'clock this afternoon, while two or three hundred people—men, women and children—mainly passengers by the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad train, were crossing the river on foot, the ice suddenly broke loose from each shore and floated down the stream. Great consternation was immediately created and the people ran hither and thither in terrible fright. They could not get off at either shore, as the ice had left the river banks and a broad open space of water intervened between them and the land. It seemed as though there would be a terrible loss of life. Thousands of citizens gathered on the levee and watched the scene with intense excitement. Luckily the immense field of ice did not break, and after floating the distance of a couple of blocks it pressed against a steamer on the Missouri shore, from which planks were pushed out and all the terrified people were rescued. No one was injured.

Michael O'Meara, a merchant from Cairo, fell into the water, but was rescued. After reaching the levee he went into a saloon to change his clothes, when he was robbed of his pocketbook, containing $1,000 in money and $5,000 in notes and sight drafts.

The ice floated some distance above the blocks and lodged again, leaving an open channel for the ferry-boats. The harbor will probably be clear to-morrow. The weather is moderating, the mercury being now above freezing point.

Bridging the Mississippi at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 30, 1868.

The differences between the rival bridge companies of this city and Illinois have been amicably settled, and the energies and resources of both companies will be concentrated in the building of a bridge across the Mississippi at this point in the shortest time possible. The arrangement gives the greatest satisfaction to the citizens of St. Louis and all interested in bridging the river.

A fire broke out last night which destroyed four frame buildings, owned by George Shelting, in Twentieth street and Archer avenue. Loss on buildings and stock $20,000; fully insured.

ILLINOIS.

The Late Fire in Chicago—Losses of Insurance Companies.

CHICAGO, Jan. 30, 1868.

Late information places the losses of the Chicago insurance companies at $195,000, and gives the following losses in addition to those previously reported:—Western and Mutual, of Buffalo, each $5,000; Capital, of Albany, $5,000; Home, of New Haven, $12,000; Springfield, of Springfield, $5,000; North American, of Philadelphia, $18,000; Corn Exchange, $5,000; New England, of Boston, $27,000; National, $10,000; American, $23,000; Phœnix, of Brooklyn, $25,000; Atlantic, $21,000; Providence, $7,000; American, $2,000; Atlantic, $16,000; Ætna, of Hartford, $20,000; Hartford, $20,000; Merchants', $21,000; Putnam and Charter Oak, each $5,000; the Underwriters' Agency, of New York, $10,000; Home, $13,000; Manhattan, Lorillard and International, each $5,000; Howard, $15,000; Security, $15,000; Empire City, $15,000; Amsterdam, $15,000; Continental, $8,000; North American, $15,000; Arctic, $7,500; American Exchange, $20,000; Ætna, $20,000; Market, $11,500; Washington, $30,000; Queens, $12,000; Liverpool, London and Globe, $66,000.

Another Fire in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 30, 1868.

A fire broke out to-night in the boot and shoe establishment of Theodore Weber & Co., No. 9 Lake street. The building and stock are damaged by fire and water to the amount of $30,000; insured.

OHIO.

Seizure of Goods of Involuntary Bankrupts.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 30, 1868.

The store and stock of Glasser & Brother, wholesale dealers in clothing and woollen goods, was seized by the United States Marshal to-day. This is the first case of seizure for involuntary bankruptcy, and it has created quite a sensation in business circles.

VIRGINIA.

The Convention—Report of the Finance Committee—Unparliamentary Epithets Exchanged.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30, 1868.

The Convention adopted four sections of the Finance Committee's report. One section was amended so as to prohibit the payment hereafter of any part of the State or municipal debt incurred in aid of the rebellion.

During the adoption of this amendment the epithets "cowardly" and "ungentlemanly" were exchanged between a conservative and a republican member, and the latter, when leaving the hall a few minutes afterward, was followed by his antagonist. Great confusion followed, with cries of "Shut the door," "Call the sergeant-at-arms," and the members from both sides crowded the aisle. No fight took place outside. The Convention then adjourned.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Convention—Report on the Public Debt.

RALEIGH, Jan. 30, 1868.

In the Convention the Committee on the Bill of Rights have unanimously agreed to report the following section in regard to the public debt:—

To maintain the honor and good faith of the State untarnished the public debt, regularly contracted before and since the rebellion, shall be regarded inviolate and never be questioned; but the State shall never assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion, either expressed or implied, against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slaves.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Convention—Ejectment of Military Police—The Pay Question—A Loan to Destitute Planters by Congress Proposed.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 30, 1868.

The Convention to-day ejected the police sent by order of the post commander to preserve order, and appointed a committee to wait on General Clitz and ascertain the cause of his action. Discussion concerning contracts based on staples was postponed.

The ordinance making the per diem $11 in State currency was adopted. General Canby has instructed the State Treasurer to forward the funds.

Several propositions were introduced petitioning Congress to loan from $1,000,000 to $2,000,000 to the State to enable planters to recuperate and pay cash wages.

A resolution was also offered to cut the lands offered for sale into small tracts, permitting the poor to purchase on credit from the State.

GEORGIA.

The Convention—Proposal to Ask Congress for a Loan to Destitute Planters.

ATLANTA, Jan. 30, 1868.

In the Convention to-day a resolution was introduced asking Congress to loan the destitute planters of the South $30,000,000, to be secured by mortgage.

Seven sections of the Bill of Rights were adopted, but none of special note.

Governor Jenkins Serves Notices on the Military Officials.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 30, 1868.

Governor Jenkins has served notices on General Ruger and Captains Rockwell and Wheaton that he will file a bill in the United States Supreme Court on the 7th of February enjoining the use of money belonging to the State of Georgia.

Radical Canvassing for the Coming Election—General Meade Reported to Have Asked to be Relieved.

ATLANTA, Jan. 30, 1868.

There is great activity in the radical political circles, and county meetings are being held to select delegates to the Convention to nominate candidates for Governor under the new constitution.

There are rumors that General Meade has asked to be relieved.

The Steamship Arago at Savannah With an Engine Disabled.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 30, 1868.

The steamer Arago, with three hundred and sixty passengers, from Aspinwall for New York, has put in here with one engine disabled. All well on board. She will proceed to New York soon.

MISSISSIPPI.

Jeff Davis at Jackson—Progress of Bates, the Pedestrian, With the United States Flag—Proceedings in the Convention.

JACKSON, Jan. 30, 1868.

Mr. Jefferson Davis and Mrs. Davis arrived here last night, and are the guests of Governor R. Humphreys. To-day a large number of citizens visited them to pay their respects. Mr. Davis appears in excellent health.

Sergeant Gilbert H. Bates arrived here to-day, and was kindly received by the citizens. He reports nothing but kind treatment thus far on his journey. He will start eastward at nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Convention adopted a resolution requesting General Gillem to issue an order requiring the payment of the special tax.

A resolution was adopted instructing the committee to annul all laws made since the passage of the ordinance of secession.

FLORIDA.

The Convention—The Superintendent of Education Asked to Resign—The Eligibility o Members.

TALLAHASSE, Jan. 30, 1868.

In the Convention to-day the report of the Committee on Boundaries was ordered to be printed. The sergeant-at-arms was ordered to report expenses incurred.

The resolution asking the Superintendent of Education to resign was amended by referring it to a committee and allowing the Superintendent to explain his case to the Convention.

The Committee on Privileges and Elections submitted a majority report against the admission of Mr. Butler from the First district. A motion to recommit the report was made, and the whole day was consumed in an exciting debate on eligibility of members and personal matters.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Passage of Railroad Bills in the Legislature.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 30, 1868.

The Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad bill, abou which so much has been said for years, passed both branches of the Legislature to-day. The road is to be commenced in six months and finished in three years. The Free Railroad bill has passed the House in the Committee of the Whole.

The White Haven Robbery—Indictments Against the Alleged Guilty Parties.

SCRANTON, Jan. 30, 1868.

Indictments have been found against Cyrus Stark, of White Haven; Elias Griffin, of this city; J. E. Spencer, of Danmore, and W. H. Sherburne, of New York, for burglary. These are alleged to be the parties to the robbery of $56,000 from the White Haven office of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company in July last.

NEW YORK.

Delegates to the Syracuse Convention.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Jan. 30, 1868.

The following delegates were chosen to the Syracuse Convention of the republicans of the First Assembly district of Dutchess county:—A. Bush, A. W. Palmer and W. B. Sheldon.

ROCHESTER, Jan. 30, 1868.

The following persons have been elected delegates to the Republican State Convention from Monroe county:—First district—Joseph A. Stull, D. Kingsley, J. H. Barrow; Second district—E. A. Frost, A. C. Wilder, George Arnold; Third district—D. D. Brown, George W. Estes, W. S. Osgood.

EUROPEAN MARKETS.

THE LONDON MONEY MARKET.—LONDON, Jan. 30—5 P. M.—Consols for money and the account, 93⅝ a 93¾. United States five-twenty bonds close steady at 72 a 72½. Illinois Central Railway shares, 86½. Erie Railway shares, 40. Evening—American securities closed firm at the rates last quoted.

FRANKFORT BOURSE.—FRANKFORT, Jan. 30—5 P. M.—United States five-twenty bonds of the issue of 1862 closed at 76.

THE PARIS BOURSE.—PARIS, Jan 30—Evening.—The Bourse closed stronger and rentes are higher.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—LIVERPOOL, Jan. 30—5 M. M.—Cotton firmer; the sales to-day foot up 18,000 bales. The following are the closing quotations:—Middling uplands, 7⅞d.; middling Orleans, 8⅛d.

LIVERPOOL BREADSTUFFS MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Jan. 30—5 P. M.—Corn heavy at 44s. 3d. for mixed Western. Wheat, 16s. for white California and 14s. 6d. for No. 2 Milwaukee red. Barley, 5s. 6d. for American. Oats, 3s. 11d. for American. Peas, 46s. 3d. for Canadian. Flour, 37s. 6d. for Western.

LIVERPOOL PROVISIONS MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Jan. 30—5 P. M.—Beef, 120s. for winter cured extra prime mess. Pork, 74s. for new Eastern prime mess. Lard, 52s. 6d. for fine American. Cheese, 52s. 6d. for fine American. Bacon, 39s. 6d. for Cumberland cut.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE MARKET.—LIVERPOOL, Jan. 30—5 P. M.—No. 12 Dutch standard sugar quiet and steady at 24s. 6d. Rosin, 6s. 3d. for common Wilmington and 11s. for fine pale. Tallow, 42s. 3d. for American. Petroleum, 1s. 2½d. for refined. Spirits turpentine, 29s. per cwt.

LONDON MARKETS.—LONDON, Jan. 30—5 P. M.—Whale oil, £36 per 252 gallons. Sperm oil, £110 per ton. Linseed oil, £36 10s. per ton. Linseed cakes, £10 10s. for thin oblong.

PETROLEUM MARKET.—ANTWERP, Jan. 30—5 P. M.—Petroleum, 42 francs for standard white.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Opening of the Democratic Campaign—Proposed Abolishment of the Police and Croton Aqueduct Boards and Removal of the Tax and Fire Commissioners—A Wholesale Onslaught on Republican Officials—The Wharves and Piers Bill—A Mystery Explained—The Latest Phase of the Fight for Police Commissioner—George H. Purser in the Field.

ALBANY, Jan. 30, 1868.

The democrats opened the campaign against their opponents by introducing, this morning, bills to undo the work of the republican Legislatures of the last several years. It has been a matter of wonderment with many that they were so long in taking the initiative to repeal all the legislation so odious to the democracy of the State and particularly to the city of New York. It was even suspected that the leaders of the party were so undesirous of doing anything which might lose them a friend in the ranks of the general enemy that they hesitated if not refused to leave the matter in *statu quo*, awaiting an expected accession of strength in the representation of the party in the Legislature, as well as a democrat in the gubernatorial chair. Such, however, seems not to be the case. Tammany, through Alexander Frear, sounded the war-whoop this morning and dug up the hatchet, and it looks now like a bitter war between the two parties—a state of things much to be preferred to the heretofore monotonous, if not stupid and dull, routine. The first of the measures introduced by Mr. Frear has a vindictive sound in its title—"An act relative to the Metropolitan Police District of the State of New York, to abolish such district and restore power and government to the local authorities in the respective counties embraced therein." The title is sufficiently indicative of what the whole bill proposes. The friends of the Police Board have been long expecting some measure of the kind and they are not disappointed. It remains to be seen whether it will achieve anything. There is a democratic majority in the lower house, it is true, but it will hardly get around the republican majority in the Senate. Even if it should by some combination manage to pass both houses the Governor would veto it, as he would in duty to his appointments be bound to do, and a two-thirds vote in either house could not be obtained for its second passage. So much for this scheme.

Two other bills were introduced by Mr. Frear. One of these proposes to abolish the present Croton Aqueduct Board by repealing the law extending their term of office. The appointment of future incumbents is given to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen as in the olden time of municipal rights. The second of these is framed for the purpose of displacing the present Tax Commissioners and Assessors and giving the appointment of their successors to the Comptroller.

There is a curious little fight going on in reference to the Wharves and Piers bill. You will remember that it was introduced a few days ago by Senator Genet, much to the surprise of all who knew that that gentleman belonged to the Tammany Hall directory which is now running the Legislature. It was at first thought that Tammany was insincere in her professions of virtue and that the bill referred to was a nice little job in which republicans and democrats were to "share and share alike." The bill included among the commission the Mayors of New York and Brooklyn, the Comptroller of New York and several citizens. Last, though not least, in this case was Charley Godard, Captain of the Port, who in return for his nomination was to "fix it" with the republican majority in the Senate, as well as with the Governor. It now turns out that Genet has not been acting with his party at all in the matter, but is waging a sort of guerilla warfare and offered the bill with this combination of politicians behind it, despite the wishes of Tweed, Sweeny & Co. There was no open disclaimer of the fact and hence Tammany was saddled with the charge of insincerity, until another Wharves and Piers bill made its appearance with another set of corporators this morning. This new bill taboos the politicians, or at least professes to do so. Thirteen persons are named in it, selected without reference to party distinctions—a profession which smacks strongly of the Citizens' Association style of things, and would indicate that the bill had its origin not far from the headquarters of that organization. The influence from all this is that the commissioners in the original bill had got wind of what the Citizens' Association was doing and determined to head them off, succeeding so far as to get their bill first introduced. The Citizens' Association left Charley Godard out in the cold, and he determined to have his revenge. The inexplicable part of it is that Genet, with his democratic professions, introduced the first bill. As the matter stands, it is a very pretty quarrel between the Citizens' Association, republican politicians and democratic spoilsmen.

A new feature has developed itself in the wrangle about the Police Commissionership. Mat Brennan has been all along kept in the foreground as the probable candidate of Tammany Hall, but he proves to be only a "dummy," else why the fraternization of Peter Bismarck Sweeny and Sheriff O'Brien, the latter of whom is the sworn foeman of the ex-Police Justice and ex-Comptroller? Several other names have been mentioned, among them those of ex-Chief Engineer John Decker and Alderman Ignatius Flynn. The real man—the coming man—is George H. Purser. The scheme of Tammany to swindle Kings county out of the selection is progressing as satisfactorily as could be desired. The fight between the two factions of that region is further from settlement than ever. Comptroller Farron's chances have improved within the past few days, and as he was the weaker man before, his accession of strength just now is only indicative of the futility of any attempt at compromise. The election will take place about the 4th of February, and the preliminary caucus of the metropolitan representatives is to be heard during next week.

A bill introduced by Mr. McKeever to-day proposes the abolition of the present Fire Commissioners and the substitution in their place of a board comprising the Mayor and Comptroller and three citizens to be selected by them.

The denizens of South Brooklyn will thank Mr. Keady for his bill, which is to regulate the South and Hamilton avenue ferries, so as to require the running of boats at least every fifteen minutes until midnight, and at least every hour after that time in the night.

The Laborers' Convention.

ALBANY, Jan. 30, 1868.

In the Working Men's Assembly to-day it was resolved to ask the Legislature to amend the Co-operative act so as to fix $500 as the smallest amount upon which co-operative associations can commence business; also for an amendment of the eight hours law by striking out the special contract clause; and a committee was appointed to remonstrate against the Auburn Prison Shoe Manufacturing bill. It was resolved to petition the Legislature to amend the laws governing prisons and penitentiaries, so as to prevent the letting of convict labor by contract, and to enforce the statute which forbids the employment of convicts at mechanical pursuits other than those to which they have already become accustomed.

A committee was appointed to prepare and present amendments to the Apprenticeship law. A resolution censuring Governer Fenton for pardoning Sophia Myers was unanimously adopted.

It was resolved to petition for a repeal of the charter of the American Emigrant Society.

The election of officers takes place to-morrow. The assemblage adjourned.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

ALBANY, Jan. 30, 1868.

BILLS NOTICED.

By Mr. HUBBARD—To incorporate the National Burglar Insurance Company of New York.

By Mr. CREAMER—To secure the rights of depositors in savings banks.

By Mr. CAULDWELL—Incorporating the New York City Central Underground Railway Company.

By Mr. NORTON—Repealing the act to erect an experimental railway in New York and Westchester counties.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. EDWARDS—Extending the charter of the Greenpoint and Shelter Island Ferry Company.

By Mr. CAULDWELL—Incorporating the White Plains Waterworks Company; authorizing the opening of an avenue through certain towns of Westchester county, to be called Westchester avenue.

By Mr. HALE—Authorizing the continued use of copartnership names in certain cases.

By Mr. CHAPMAN—Amending the act to simplify and abridge the practice and proceedings in courts of this state.

BILLS PASSED.

Establishing the office of Receiver of Taxes in the town of Westchester; extending the time for the collection of taxes in the towns of this State to the 20th of March; authorizing the erection of a schoolhouse in the town of New Lots.

SALE OF UNCLAIMED RAILROAD BAGGAGE AND FREIGHT.

A communication was received from the Comptroller stating that no money has ever been received at that office on account of the sale of unclaimed baggage and freight by railroads in this State.

On motion of Mr. O'Donnell, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That every railroad company of the State is hereby required to report to the Comptroller, on or before the 10th day of February next the amount received from the sale of unclaimed freight or baggage since April 14, 1857, the time when any such sale has been made, the amount received at such sale or sales, and what disposition has been made of the proceeds thereof; and that the State Engineer be requested to transmit this resolution immediately to the president of every railroad company in the State.

ASSEMBLY.

ALBANY, Jan. 30, 1868.

BILLS ADVANCED TO A THIRD READING.

To incorporate the Newburg Industrial Savings Bank; to incorporate the Sixth Avenue Savings Bank; to extend the time for the collection of taxes in all towns and cities where taxes are not collected under a special law.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. KEADY—To regulate the running of boats on the South and Hamilton Brooklyn ferries.

By Mr. FREAR—To abolish the Metropolitan Police district; also to amend the Croton Aqueduct act.

By Mr. MCKEEVER—To amend the Metropolitan Fire District act.

By Mr. HARTMAN—To incorporate the New York Hotel, Restaurant and Pastry Cook Association; to incorporate the Manufacturers' Savings Bank of New York.

By Mr. RAY—For the better security of passengers on railroads.

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR COLLECTION OF TAXES.

The bill to extend the time for the collection of taxes in this State was passed.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

The Powers of the Legislature in Granting Authority to Construct Street Railroads—The Article on Cities, Their Organization and Government.

ALBANY, Jan. 30, 1868.

The following amendment to the article on the duties and powers of the Legislature relative to granting authority to construct and operate street railroads was reconsidered and adopted in the Constitutional Convention to-day:—

But no law shall be passed granting the right to construct and operate a street railroad within any of the cities, towns or incorporated villages of this State without the consent of the local authorities of such city, town or village, and also the consent of the owners of at least one-third in value of the property, as fixed by the assessment roll of the previous year, on that portion of each street through or over which the same shall be constructed; or in case the consent of such property owners cannot be obtained, then without the consent of the general term of the Supreme Court of the district in which such road shall be located, such consent to be obtained and authenticated in such manner as the Legislature shall by general law for that purpose provide.

The following sections of the article on cities and towns, reported by the committee, were adopted, the first by a vote of 60 to 24:—

SECTION 1. There shall be chosen every two years by the electors at large of every city a Mayor, who shall be the chief executive officer thereof, and whose duty it shall also be to see that the duties of the various city officers are faithfully performed. He shall have power to investigate their acts, to have access to all books and documents in their respective offices and to examine their subordinates on oath. He shall also have power to suspend or remove such officers from office, whether they be elected or appointed, for violation or neglect of duty, to be specified in the order of suspension or removal; but no such removal shall be made without reasonable notice to the party complained of and an opportunity afforded him to be heard in his defence.

SEC. 2. There shall be chosen every three years by the electors at large of every city a Comptroller, who shall have charge of the Department of Finance; there shall be such other city officers as the Legislature shall provide; but for this purpose cities may be classified according to the population and the different offices provided for the different classes. All city officers for whose election or appointment no provision is made by existing laws, or in this article, shall be elected by the voters of the city at large or of some division thereof appointed by the Mayor, with the Board of Aldermen, as shall be provided by law; no city officer shall during his term of office hold a seat in the Common Council of the city or in the Legislature, and the acceptance of such a seat shall vacate his office.

SEC. 3. The State, for the purposes of local government, shall be divided into towns, cities and villages, as heretofore, and no other local divisions or districts shall be made, except for sanitary or police purposes. All laws inconsistent with this section are abrogated from and after the 1st day of May, 1869.

THE COLE-HISCOCK HOMICIDE.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALD.

Decision on the Motion to Quash the Certiorari—The Writ Superseded—Opinion of the Court.

ALBANY, Jan. 30, 1868.

On the opening of the court here this morning Judge Peckham, immediately after taking his seat, announced his decision on the motion, argued yesterday, to quash or supersede the writ of certiorari granted by Judge Welles on the 23d ult., and the effect of which was to remove the trial of General Geo. W. Cole, on the indictment for the murder of L. Harris Hiscock, from the Oyer and Terminer to the Supreme Court.

Judge Peckham said that he had considered the motion, as far as he might, to quash or supersede the writ of certiorari. Several grounds were urged against the action of the court in entertaining a motion to supersede or quash, and among others that, as it seemed proper to the judge to allow the writ, it was not right in a single judge again to review the decision. That was very much more plausible than sound. The practice of the court authorized it, and the law was quite uniform for a single judge to review, upon hearing both sides, what another judge had done who had not heard both parties, as in cases of attachment, injunction and some other proceedings. Such cases took place very frequently. A judge who acts *ex parte* will always hear such motions if brought to his attention, and it is common to review those cases upon the same papers upon which the judge heard them. There was, therefore, no ground or force in the position. It was also urged that this motion to quash could not be heard at any other than a General Term. He was satisfied that this was also without foundation. He though there were cases deciding the reverse of that; under the code he thought it was quite clear that this motion could be made at Special Term. It was also claimed that no motion could be made until the return of the writ. This did not apply to this class of cases. Action might be taken upon a writ of certiorari as if it were well founded; but, altogether, he did not perceive any legal difficulty in disposing of this case upon its merits, and upon the merits there was no ground for the issuing of this writ. The case was one of homicide, and the newspapers had commented upon it, and they always had and always would do so, as long as human nature remained the same. When a homicide of this character had been committed in a civilized land it would be curious if comments were not made upon it by the press. And such comments had never yet been understood to be cause for a change of place of trial or of court. These grounds for the removal of this case had existed since June last. They existed in June so far as they do now, and yet at the November term of the Oyer and Terminer they prepared for trial in full knowledge of these facts—for the trial of the case upon its merits. Again at the present term of this court preparation was made, and yet on this ground it was sought to remove the case to another locality for trial. Its appropriateness did not strike the Court. Another ground was insisted upon—that this writ was properly allowed because the prisoner was not ready for trial. The Court did not think that that should receive the least consideration in a case of this character. Wholly inappropriate in such an action was a motion to put off the case on the ground of not being ready for trial. How could a judge, *ex parte*, know of the propriety of putting off this case? How could he properly know? The Court could not believe that the judge issuing that writ could have given the case any such consideration. The idea of putting off a case on the merits, on *ex parte* application was truly a novel one and utterly unfit to be acted upon by a judicial officer, and he (Judge Peckham) could not give that portion of the case any consideration. A motion to put off the case could readily have been heard upon the proper facts appearing on the papers to be presented. He did not know of any foundation for the intimation that the associate justices on the trial might overrule the presiding Judge, and such statements by counsel were utterly foreign to the merits of this question. This party, although occupying previously a high position, and, as it appeared, had rendered eminent services to the country, must be tried, his case must be disposed of like that of any other citizen, and it seemed to the Court that this writ should be superseded. The proper order to that effect was directed to be made.

After the Court had rendered this opinion District Attorney Smith rose and stated that with the permission of the Court he would move to-morrow morning that the trial of the case be proceeded with, and suggested to the opposing counsel the propriety of appearing with affidavits at that time to oppose the motion if such action was contemplated.

The Court stated that it had no authority to direct such action on the part of the counsel for the defence, but concurred in the suggestion.

FIRES IN NEW YORK.

FIRE IN CHAMBERS STREET.—About five o'clock last night a fire occurred on the fourth floor of No. 103 Chambers street, in premises occupied by Naramore & Friedlander, dealers in tailors' trimmings. The firemen were quickly at the premises and extinguished the fire before it extended beyond the room in which it originated. Naramore & Friedlander also occupy the second floor; their damage will be about $500; insured. The third floor is occupied by C. A. Peine, agent for Heller & Co.'s cutlery; damage by water slight. The first floor and basement are occupied by Andrew Lester & Co., dealers in woollen goods; damage by water about $500; insured for $100,000. The building is damaged about $500; insured.

FIRE IN CENTRE STREET.—Shortly after six o'clock a fire was discovered in the cabinet shop on the fourth floor of No. 212 Centre street, occupied by Christian & Eberlinger; damage about $1,000; no insurance. The fifth floor is occupied by Bleibstein & Schafer, sofa frame makers; loss $300; insured for $500 in St. Mark's Insurance Company. Third floor, S. Hirsch, cabinet-maker; loss $200. Second floor, Henry Feist; damage $200; insured for $400 in Jersey City Insurance Company. First floor, barroom and dwelling of Henry Smith; damage $100 by water; no insurance. The building is owned by the Van Zandt estate and is damaged to the extent of $600; supposed to be insured.

FIRE IN WATTS STREET.—About eight o'clock a fire occurred in the junk shop of John McDonnell, in the basement of No. 97 Watts street, among some bales of cotton. Damage about $100; no insurance.

FIRE IN WEST TWENTY-SIXTH STREET.—About half-past eight o'clock last night a fire occurred in the carpenter shop of John S. Meyer, caused by the wood work over the boiler taking fire from the heat. Damage about $500; insured for $1,500 in the Hamilton Insurance Company and $1,000 in the Metropolitan Insurance Company.

NEW JERSEY.

THE TRIAL OF E. L. WICKES AT NEWARK.—The trial of Prof. E. L. Wickes for the publication of obscene books is still on in the Essex county court. Two witnesses were examined yesterday morning, but the evidence elicited was of no public interest.

Mr. Guild, counsel for defendant, began his summing up about half-past ten yesterday morning and closed his address to the jury about two o'clock in the afternoon. His main arguments were that the physicians who had given evidence in behalf of the State were prejudiced against Wickes, and that the most eminent members of the legal profession had published similar works. Among the authors named were Storer, Acton, Gardner and Gross. The counsel also referred the jury to the character of the accused, who, he stated, was a lecturer of ability and of good standing in the community. The fact that Wickes put his imprint on the title page of the book was also referred to.

County Prosecutor Titsworth also reviewed the evidence in the case, contending that the allegations found in the indictment had been clearly proved. The book, he argued, was one mass of immorality.

To-day the judge will deliver his charge to the jury.

AMUSEMENTS.

PIKE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Donizetti's favorite old opera, "Lucrezia Borgia," was produced last evening in this splendid building with considerable success, and notwithstanding the unfavorable aspect of the weather the house was comfortably filled with an appreciative audience. Few operas of the eminent composer have retained such a firm hold on the public as "Lucrezia," few from which so many standing and oft-repeated gems have been culled, and few have been instrumental in giving to the world so many great artistes, for, perhaps, the greatest of all dates her fame from her successful debut in that *rôle*. The cast last evening was highly satisfactory. Mme. De La Grange was very cordially greeted, and deservedly so, for her impersonation of Lucrezia was not only equal to her reputation, but may be classed as perhaps one of the most brilliant of her performances during the present season. She was ably assisted by Miss Adelaide Phillips as Maffio Orsini. Signor Massimiliani appeared as Gennaro, Signor Susini as Duke Alphonso, and Signor Coletti as Gubetta. The other characters were well sustained. "Rigoletto" is announced for this evening.

STEINWAY HALL—DANIEL.—George F. Bristow's magnificent oratorio, "Daniel," was given for the second time at Steinway Hall last night. A second hearing of this work confirmed our first impressions of it. It is, indeed, the work of a thorough musician, gifted with genius. Outside the beaten track of oratorio "Daniel" will be more acceptable to modern taste than many of its predecessors. There is not a solo, duet or chorus in the entire oratorio but bears the stamp of originality and dramatic talent. It may be called a holy opera, and the variety of ideas in it causes it to be interesting from beginning to end. As the handiwork of an American composer, "Daniel" reflects the highest credit on our country in the realms of art, and there are few, if any, composers in Europe at the present day who are capable of writing anything equal to it. Miss Brainerd and Miss Hutchings distinguished themselves in the soprano and contralto parts, but the rendering of other singers was by no means equal to the performance of the first night. Such a sublime work should receive more attention and be heard more frequently. The Richings Opera Troupe give a concert to-night.

CARNIVAL OF THE ARION SOCIETY.

The second carnival of the Arion Vocal Society during the present year was held at the Germania Assembly Rooms last evening. The hall was thronged with the *élite* of the German society of the metropolis, the rosy cheeked ladies gracing the scene with their presence being countless. The male attendants wore carnival caps of variegated colors, decorated with tiny bells that lent additional zest to the comic picture. Around the walls of the room were broad, illuminated caricatures of members of the society, and on the right and left of the gorgeous dais or platform, behind which the grand Council of Ten sat, were representations of a policeman and Liberty, in pasteboard, dressed in all the regal gewgaws and trinketry of princes potentate, which attracted much attention and caused great merriment.

Opening the festal meeting a grand procession, tricked out in broad imitation, characteristic dresses, of municipal officers, made their obeisance to the president, Mr. Baeder, who delivered the welcome speech in behalf of the Select Council, alluding to the "day we celebrate," the fourteenth anniversary of the Arion Society, and giving a curious history of the Association, tracing their origin to Periander, King of Corinth, who was the founder of the Corinthian Leiderkranz. The Master of Ceremonies, with all the comic pomp imaginable, then, with baton in hand, caused the opening song to be rendered. It was composed by the president, and in a peculiar, laughable vein, beginning:—

Without fear of getting grounded,
Thirteen bully boys once founded;

and continuing in like happy manner the history of the organization. During the evening the speeches of Messrs. Triacca and Stauffer, with Dr. Donai, made merriment in their humorous hits at the follies and politics of the day.

As night advanced merriment and universal joy reigned supreme. Eyes grew brighter and feet tripped livelier to music sweet, and hearts beat responsively to hearts in the general joy. It was an occasion enlivened musically, grotesquely and vocally pre-eminent above all other festivities of like character held this year.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Massachusetts State Republican Convention will be held in Worcester March 12 to nominate delegates to the Presidential Convention.

The Rhode Island Republican State Convention will meet in Providence on Saturday, February 22.

Forty Pennsylvannia republican papers have declared in favor of Mr. Galusha A. Grow as their candidate for Vice President.

Ed. Cleveland proposes "to go into the coming canvass with all the moral effect of his character and influence." It will require something stronger than canvas to endure that strain. The democracy of New Hampshire have taken the first steps toward insuring their defeat. They have engaged Collector Babcock and Postmaster Cleveland to stump the State for them.—*New Haven Palladium.*

The experiences of the last campaign in Connecticut prove differently, so far as these gentlemen are concerned.

A democratic club just formed at Clarksville for Calumet township, Pike county, Mo., has over two hundred members. The St. Louis *Republican* says it is believed the radicals will be beaten in that county in November next by a majority of fifteen hundred votes.

The North Carolina Republican State Convention will be held in Raleigh on the 26th of February, "to nominate candidates for State officers and perform such other duties as may be deemed advisable."

The Raleigh (N. C.) *Standard*—radical—states that "it is already a foregone conclusion that the proposed convention of obstructionists—February 5—will prove a miserable failure."

A Washington correspondent (Jan. 28) of the Springfield *Republican*, referring to the election of General Beatty, in the Eighth Ohio district, says:—"It was rumored that Beatty adopted Pendleton's financial views during the canvass, but one of his colleagues denies it. His ground was that the bonds shall be paid according to contract. "If that says, pay in paper, pay in paper; if in coin, pay in coin." This is quoted from one of his campaign speeches.

General Beatty's majority in the Eighth Ohio Congressional District has been reduced to 726.

ALMOST ANOTHER RAILROAD SLAUGHTER

The Accident on the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad—Four Cars Burned.

[From the Cincinnati Gazette, Jan. 29.]

The express train which left Cincinnati at ten minutes past seven on Monday evening met with an accident about midnight at a point one mile and a half east of North Lewisburg, Ohio, and nearly one hundred and twenty miles east of this city. The train, which was in charge of Conductor Brinsley, was moving along at a moderate speed, when it was thrown from the track by a broken rail and tossed down an embankment of some four or five feet. The cars at once took fire *from the overturned stoves*, but fortunately all the passengers escaped without the loss of a single life. Peter Miller, who boarded the train at Bowjes