THE STATE CAPITAL.

The New York Tax Commissioners—The Election of Police Commissioners for the City of New York—Passage in the House of the Bill Amending the Quarantine Act.

ALBANY, March 16, 1869.

At present the Tax Commissioner bill is the most important question immediately claiming the attention of New York politicians and officials, quite a number of whom are here on the *qui vive* as to its fate. There can be no doubt about the necessity of the bill. The Commission of Taxes and Assessments, as it now exists, is in a most wretched and unsatisfactory state. As the Senate Committee on Municipal Affairs say in their report:—

Should either of the commissioners resign, die or remove from the State, the office would no longer exist to make valid assessments; nor could any new taxes be levied or collected until fresh legislation should be had to put the office in working condition. Under these circumstances your committee has thought it proper, prudent and necessary to provide, by legislation, a remedy for the defects already existing in relation to this office, to remove the uncertainties relating thereto and to avoid fresh litigation—as litigation and extra salaries have already cost the city, in connection with the office since 1864, over $200,000, springing from its present condition. In the opinion of your committee the bill herewith submitted accomplishes this, and your committee respectfully submit the same.

If there was no other objection to the present organization of the Tax Commission than that two out of three of its present members—Messrs. Allen and Brown—are engaged in the business of real estate agents and auctioneers, and thus can hardly be regarded as an impartial jury in the assessment of the value of property, this alone would be a paramount objection and a strong argument in favor of the bill which is now the subject of legislation, giving the appointment of Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments to the Comptroller, who is responsible to the people of the city of New York, who elect that official, and taking the appointing power from the hands of country members at Albany. The citizens of New York ought to have a voice in the method by which their property shall be assessed and their taxation imposed. In the present chaotic state of affairs there is really no law at all governing the assessment and collection of taxes. The cost of litigation in the courts for the past five years, testing the validity of the law, would nearly cover the expenses of assessing and collecting the taxes. The act of April 14, 1859, gave the appointment of the Commissioners to the Comptroller, and they were so appointed for five years by Mr. Haws, who was then in office. But when M. T. Brennan was elected in 1864 he changed the *personnel* of the commission by substituting Geo. H. Purser and C. B. Woodruff for Brown and Williamson. The Court of Appeals decided that the power of the Comptroller to appoint under the act of 1859 was exhausted. Upon this the old Commissioners were restored. In 1867 the Legislature passed an act giving the Governor and Senate the right to appoint Commissioners, but the Court of Appeals unanimously decided that the act was unconstitutional, that the office of Tax Commissioner was exclusively a city office according to the State constitution of 1846. Under this decision the Governor's Commissioners were ousted and the old officials of 1859, came in again. At this time and since the death of Amor J. Williamson, two years ago, the commissioners were Jonathan W. Allen, Josiah W. Brown and David Miller. In this unsettled condition, which is liable at any time to be disturbed by the death of one of the commissioners, as the Supreme Court decided, the machinery for the assessment and collection of taxes would be destroyed. To correct this is the object of the present bill. The opposition to it comes mainly from the Tax Commissioners' office, the same influence which backed up Fenton for Senator, and, it is said, made sundry compacts with republican members in reference thereto.

The bill introduced by Mr. L. D. Kiernan for the election of Police Commissioners in the city of New York, although reported against by the Committee on Cities last night, was committed to the Committee of the Whole by a close vote of thirty-eight to forty. This was a great democratic victory, and will test the consistency of the majority when the bill comes up. Mr. Kiernan, in opposing the report of the committee, very properly urged that a few weeks ago a bill was introduced and passed without opposition, giving to the city of Syracuse the right to elect their police commissioners by ballot. This was a recognition of a just principle, and one for which the democracy had long contended. He simply asked that the same principle be recognized so far as the city of New York was concerned. If the principle was just for Syracuse, it was just for New York. He could not see with what propriety the Committee on Cities could report such a bill favorably for Syracuse and reject it for New York. The bills were identical in terms. He thought there was an unjust prejudice existing toward New York, and he could not account for it in any other way than that one was democratic and the other republican. He had nothing to say against the Police Commissioners of either city. But it was a question of principle for which he contended. The plan of electing the Police Commissioners would always secure a non-partisan Board; while the plan now in force might not secure such a result. There is very little probability of the bill passing.

The bill amending the Quarantine act of 1862, to the extent of permitting newsboats to board vessels for the collection of marine news, passed the House to-day and was sent to the Senate for concurrence. Only two members voted against it—Mr. Selkreg, of Tompkins, and Mr. Keegan, of New York. The object of a New York city delegate opposing a bill which has for its purpose, in an especial manner, the commercial interests of the city is something best known to himself. Mr. Keegan voted for the bill when his name was called, but afterwards asked to have his vote changed to a negative. Mr. Hitchman offered a resolution asking for the authority by which the Board of Health sent both well and sick passengers from the ship Foster to Ward's Island, which was adopted.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

ALBANY, March 16, 1869.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. NORTON—Authorizing the Justice of each civil and criminal district court in the city of New York to appoint an interpreter.

By Mr. GENET—Changing the name of the Homoeopathic Medical College of the State of New York, in the city of New York, to the New York Homoeopathic Medical College, and continuing the existence of the same.

By Mr. GENET—To incorporate the Harlem Yacht Club.

By Mr. MORGAN—To amend the Militia law.

By Mr. WILLIAMS—To repeal the law relative to the inspection of steam boilers.

BILLS PASSED.

Amending the charter of the Middletown Savings Bank; for a free bridge over Hudson river at Fort Edward; to exempt Gardner's Island from assessment for highway labor.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

The Assembly concurrent resolution for a special committee to investigate the affairs of the State Lunatic Asylum was adopted.

BILL REPORTED.

To prevent adulteration in articles of food, drink or medicine.

BILL PROGRESSED.

A bill to remove Genesee College was discussed at length by Mr. Kennedy for and Mr. Humphrey against, and progressed.

The Senate then took a recess.

Evening Session.

ALBANY, March 16, 1869.

The special order for this evening was the Canal Contract bill. Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Morgan opposed the bill and Mr. Hale spoke in its favor. No action was taken. The bill was made the special order for to-morrow.

Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY

ALBANY, March 16, 1869.

REPORTS.

On the motion of Mr. SELKREG the Supply bill was recommitted to the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. L. E. SMITH presented the minority report on the bill removing Genesee College.

The SPEAKER presented the annual report of the Auditor on the trade, tolls and tonnage of canals for the year 1868; also the report of Adjutant General Marvin.

Mr. ALLABEN, from the Railroad Committee, reported a bill chartering the Utica and Mohawk Railroad and authorizing certain towns to take stock in the same.

BILLS PASSED.

Confirming the proceedings of the Monticello and Port Jervis Railroad Company; to amend the act altering the Commissioners' map of Brooklyn; continuing Fifth avenue, Brooklyn, to Atlantic avenue; authorizing the Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Railroad to extend the road to Oneonta; amending the law for the compensation of surrogates; amending the law authorizing certain towns in Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne to take stock in the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad; amending the charter of the village of Johnstown; amending the act relative to the collection of taxes in Onandaga; amending the charter of the Middletown Savings Bank; in relation to the collection of ship news in New York harbor; changing the name of the First National Eclectic Assurance Society; authorizing Syracuse to take stock in the Syracuse and Northern and the Syracuse and Chenango Valley Railroads; to amend the charter of the East India Telegraph Company; to extend the time for collecting taxes in Oswego; to amend the charter of the German Liedkrantz; to incorporate the Southern Fire Savings Bank of Elmira.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On motion of Mr. MURPHY the special gas committee was instructed to investigate also the affairs of the Albany Gas Company.

Mr. HITCHMAN introduced the following resolution:—

Whereas the Health Officer of the port of New York on or about the 8th inst. did transfer to Ward's Island, direct from the ship James Foster, Jr., a large number of the passengers other than persons suffering from ship fever, which alone he is authorized by law to so transfer; and

Whereas the Metropolitan Board of Health has directed the transfer to Ward's Island of all the remaining passengers of the said vessel; and

Whereas such action and order by the Health Officer and Board of Health are apparently designed to establish on Ward's Island a quarantine, thus endangering the health and lives of the large and increasing population of Harlem, Yorkville and Westchester county; therefore

Resolved, That the Health Officer of the port of New York and the Metropolitan Board of Health be requested to inform this House without delay by what authority they have acted in this matter.

Adopted.

The House resolved to hold sessions every evening of the week except Thursday, and this week include also Thursday.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. HASBROUCK—Relative to stage routes in New York city. It annuls the license to run stages or omnibusses on routes upon which they have not run during five years past.

By Mr. BRADSTREET—Incorporating the Equitable Savings Institution of the city of New York.

By Mr. HASBROUCK—Repealing the authority of the New York and Harlem Railroad to lay down a double track from their track in Fourth avenue, at Forty-second street, to Madison avenue, and up said avenue to Seventy-ninth street.

Recess.

Evening Session.

ALBANY, March 16, 1869.

BILLS ORDERED TO A THIRD READING.

Authorizing the extension of Clove Branch Railroad; giving additional compensation to deputies, clerks and assistants in various departments of the State government; providing additional buildings for lunatics in the city of New York. Several bills were progressed.

Adjourned.

LECTURES LAST NIGHT.

REVIVALS IN THE LAST CENTURY.

Lecture by the Rev. Dr. Hall.

Last evening a lecture was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Hall in West Forty-fourth street United Presbyterian church, the subject being "Revivals in the Last Century." The neat little church was crowded with a respectable assemblage, and throughout the greatest interest appeared to be manifested in the discourse. The interesting proceedings were opened by the Rev. G. Campbell, pastor of the church, who announced the 100th Psalm, which was harmoniously rendered by the congregation. A short prayer having been said the Rev. Dr. Hall commenced his lecture by referring to the great religious revivals of the last century. He gave a lucid explanation of the word revival, showing that it mainly signified the grand resurrection of dormant religious sentiments. The revivals in the last century were marked with an almost enthusiastic devotion, as they were sincere, determined and most beneficial in their results. The hearts of nations responded and the praises of the Lord were echoed far and wide. Previously, however, there had been a lull in religious affairs. Men were bent on other vocations than that of pursuing the paths of heavenly truths, and the sacred voice of religion sounded faintly on their ears. They were warned and entreated to return to the ways of righteousness, the heralds of the holy gospel pealed forth the solemn trumpets, but for a long time the response was weak and reluctant. At length came the grand and crowning crisis which happily culminated in the triumphal turn of religious affairs. New feelings were infused into hitherto stubborn hearts, which, pliant with earnest and repeated instruction, swelled in one grand simultaneous strain of praise to Almighty God. In Ireland the ministers of the Church preached with great success, their efforts everywhere been recognized and appreciated. Not less in Scotland did the great work of religious revival spread around its advantageous influences. Throughout both countries the spirit of God prevailed, and men hitherto blind to the zealous endeavors of earnest preachers yielded a most willing and submissive obedience to the voice of Heaven. That same spirit which there so nobly prevailed had also found a welcome home in the United States. In England, too, the sentiment of religious revival spread with wonderful rapidity, and throughout many nations a unanimous feeling of devotion was experienced. There was born about the beginning of the century, in an obscure rectory in Lancashire, John Wesley, the son of an obscure clergyman. His mother being cultivated and otherwise excellent, determined that her son should have the benefits of a good education. Wesley protessed a desire to become a minister of the Church, which he did; not, however, before he had received a most exemplary advice from that mother for whom he entertained so deep an affection. In due time he became a minister and quickly displayed those remarkable talents for which he subsequently became so famous. The reverend lecturer then proceeded to trace the eventful career of Wesley, and passed a high eulogy upon his memory for the masterly compositions which he left behind, for his zealous endeavors in the cause of religion and the unceasing energy which marked his entire existence. He also referred to the great labors of Walker, the son of a poor curate, who established a church in Cornwall. When he first preached there he told his congregation that they were born in sin, whereupon his removal by the rector was requested. Walker, however, insisted that they were brought forth in iniquity, and though the congregation had previously been used to other more favorable intelligence from the pulpit finally came to the conclusion that Walker preached the truth, and hundreds were accordingly converted. The reverend gentleman enumerated many clergymen who had contributed largely to the successful issue of the grand revivalist spirit which, owing to the untiring spirit of zealous missionaries, was manifested throughout the land. Among others he instanced the names of Romaine, Hervey, Whitfield, Adams, Grimshaw and others, who did such noble service in the cause of religion. Such men changed public opinion and enlightened the people, shamed apathy and indifference and encouraged the promotion of God's sacred truths. The present generation had great reason to be thankful that such men had appeared upon the world's stage. The reverend gentleman contended that the most brilliant minds were not always made the instruments for carrying out the Divine wishes, nor the grandeur in which religious services were carried out. It was the sincere spirit that was regained—a spirit that would make men earnest as regards themselves and earnest in their sentiments toward each other. The lecturer concluded by a feeling exhortation, after which the congregation sang the forty-fifth Psalm, and the Rev. Mr. Campbell having pronounced the benediction, the proceedings were brought to a close.

THE RUINS OF ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

Lecture by Rev. Dr. Anderdon.

A small number of people were gathered last night at St. Peter's Hall, Hicks street, Brooklyn, to hear a lecture on "The Ruins of England and Ireland," by Rev. Dr. Anderdon, given for the benefit of the Brooklyn Central Dispensary. The ruins of England and Ireland, the speaker said, may be divided into two classes, secular and religious. The first class is made up of the ruins of baronial castles and the second of the ruins of Church establishments. The speaker then said that he would conduct his hearers to one of those old castles, for he proposed to consider first the secular ruins, and made as an apology for so doing that no one born in this country and who had never been out of it had ever seen any ruins, for the simple fact that there were none to see. Two hundred years ago, he said, Manhattan Island was sold to the Dutch traders by the aborigines for the sum of twenty-four dollars; but two hundred years was but a short space of time in the life of the older European peoples. The castles were built before the invention of gunpowder, and were accordingly built to resist only the offensive weapons then used, and they were called upon to resist nothing more destructive than the battering ram. Here the lecturer digressed from his subject to give an account of the battering ram and the implements of warfare in vogue in the days of the barons of whom he spoke. The moment gunpowder was introduced into warfare the destruction began to come upon the old castles. The greater part of these ruins can be traced to Oliver Cromwell and his Ironsides. A castle such as the lecturer was speaking of was here described, and the means of defence, the moats, the drawbridge, the portcullis and the keep. Some of these castles may still be found both in England and Ireland just as they were when first built, so that one in seeing them can get a good idea of the life of their occupants. The speaker said there was nothing to regret in the destruction of these old castles. But it was not so with the religious houses. There is something absolutely ghastly in the sight of a religious house in ruins. A large number of these houses, devoted to prayer and study and the relief of the poor, had been destroyed by a wicked king. The speaker said he would not malign Henry VIII., but in less than four years he had destroyed no less than three hundred and seventy-five of the smaller religious houses in England alone. In Ireland seven hundred and eighty monasteries were destroyed. Afterwards in England, in the year 1540, came a still more sweeping destruction, when six hundred and thirty-six of the larger religious houses were destroyed. In addition to these there were many chapels where mass was said daily that met the same fate as the larger establishments. Here the speaker alluded to the fact that none of the property on which their houses stood, with but one exception, had descended to the third generation, which he thought to be a punishment for the sin of sacrilege. What is a religious house? If the ordinary run of historians were to be believed, one would think that a monk was one of the laziest men in the world. Now had these monks anything to do? Were they lazy? They were smart enough to get up at midnight or by two o'clock every morning and engage in prayer for two hours. The monks had charge also of the education of the youth. That was no idle work and was performed in no idle manner. Each great monastery was a university as well as a religious house. The speaker said that some of these abbeys were so large that the buildings alone covered sixty acres of ground. Much has been said by non-Catholic writers about the kitchens of the abbeys, with the intent to give the idea that the monks were more studious of the wants of the physical than of the spiritual man; but these kitchens were large, some of them having three ovens, each large enough to roast an ox whole, because it was one of the objects of the monastery to feed the poor. In destroying the three thousand houses of prayer Henry VIII. abolished the offices of thirty thousand priests. Notwithstanding all this there was no ground for discouragement for the future of the Catholic Church, the speaker thought. He closed his lecture by quoting the famous passage of Macaulay in reference to the perpetuity of this establishment, in which he pictures the New Zealander sketching from a broken end of London bridge the ruins of St. Paul.

MASQUERADE OF THE FIRST NATIONAL SOCIAL UNION.

The first National Social Union, an organization embracing among its members a large number of the festive youths of the Eleventh and Seventeenth wards, gave their annual reunion last night at Geib Brothers, Walhalla Hall in Orchard street. The ball was a masquerade one and certainly one of the most pleasant affairs of the season. It was more a social gathering of friends than a public meeting of persons strange to one another; and as a consequence all seemed to enjoy themselves and to enter into the fun with heart and strength. The costumes were very good, and as almost everybody was dressed in fancy dress the variety was very large. There were all sorts of characters grouped in the most amusing confusion. Queens of the night pirouetted with Irishmen; Genevieve de Brabant flirted with a Choctaw Indian; the gend'arme (in Genevieve) was chatting with a charming court lady; Uncle Sam, all stars and stripes, seemed happy with a Swiss peasant girl; fat boys danced with Marie Antoinettes, and all sorts of characters mixed in the festivities in all sorts of curious combinations. Dancing commenced about nine o'clock, to the music of an excellent band, and as dance followed dance the happy couples joined in filling the floor at every number. About midnight an interval was taken for supper, and the assembled guests, having done justice to the substantial part of the programme, again plunged into the service of Terpsichore. Fast and furious the fun proceeded, and not until the gray streaks of morning began to show themselves did the untired dancers make up their minds to leave the scene of so much enjoyment.

Several prominent city officials were present, among whom were Mr. Gumbleton and a large delegation from the County Clerks Office. The management was excellent, and was under the control of Messrs. T. Schmeer, L. Stern, J. Hoch, C. P. Kehl, C. Obemeyer, A. Stern, J. F. Wohltman, H. Maurer and A. Denhard. The officers of the club are Anthony Kael, Jr., President; Abe Stern and J. Hoch, Secretaries, and C. P. Kehl, Treasurer.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

RUN OVER AND SERIOUSLY INJURED.—Warner Church, residing at No. 798 Third avenue, was run over at the corner of Fifty-third street and Third avenue last evening by a horse and butcher's cart, driven by William Hansman, and seriously injured. The unfortunate man was removed to his residence and the reckless driver arrested.

ROBBERY OF A BROADWAY FIRM.—An attaché of the house of Hammond, Marvin & Co., No. 502 Broadway, last evening reported at the Central Office that about one o'clock a thief entered the store, and, being unobserved, carried away a box containing ten dozen ladies' palm-shade hats, valued at about fifty dollars. No arrest was made.

GUARDIANS OF THE UNITED STATES MAIL.—Last evening another large bag of United States mail matter, entrusted to large salaried keepers for delivery at a depot in the city, to be sent to its destination, was found by members of the Fourteenth precinct police on Crosby street, near Howard, having apparently fallen from the wagon on which it left the Post Office. The time—9:20 P. M.—was just in the "nick" of time to give the thieves of the neighborhood where the bag was lost an opportunity to walk off with it unmolested.

SERIOUS STABBING AFFRAY.

Ante-Mortem Statement.

Late yesterday afternoon Coroner Flynn was called to the corner of Hubert and West streets to take the ante-mortem statement of James Keenan, a man twenty-three years of age, a native of West Troy, who had been stabbed. It appears that about midday, while Keenan was at work on the bulkhead between piers 38 and 39 North river, when Welch came and commenced scattering a quantity of potatoes over the pier. Keenan remonstrated with him, and from words they soon came to blows, during which Welch drew a long-bladed knife and stabbed Keenan in the abdomen, inflicting a dangerous wound. Welch then attempted to escape, but was arrested by the Fifth precinct police and sent to the station house in Leonard street.

The statement of Keenan was taken, and in the main is in accordance with the foregoing facts. A verdict was rendered against Welch by the jury, and Coroner Flynn committed him to await the result of Keenan's injuries.

THE NEW YORK METHODIST CONFERENCE.

After a protracted session, held in the First Methodist church, Williamsburg, the above body adjourned *sine die* at a late hour last night. The following assignment of pastors was made by the Conference previous to adjournment:—Attorney street church, New York, to be supplied; Grand street, Williamsburg, Rev. R. Hanks; Graham avenue, Williamsburg, Rev. T. Dibble; Graham avenue and Devoe street, Williamsburg, Rev. Joseph Thompson; Elm street, Williamsburg, Rev. William C. Clark; Tarrytown, Rev. J. H. Painter; Tompkin's Cove, Rev. J. J. Smith; Georgetown, Rev. M. Staples; Bedford, Conn., Rev. Geo. E. Sanderson; Centreville, N. J., Rev. J. G. Dyer; Flatlands, Rev. R. S. Hulsart; Suffolk, Rev. George W. Dikeman; Franklinton, Rev. Dr. J. Cowan; Orange, Rev. A. J. Conklin; Saratoga Springs, Rev. A. Sownborger; Vernon, Rev. W. H. Mott; Woodhaven, to be supplied; New London, Rev. E. Withers; Peekskill and Putnam, Rev. N. W. Britton; Centreport, Rev. E. Stockwell, Paterson (Division street), Rev. J. H. Robinson; Paterson (Main street), Rev. William Lord; Plainfield, Rev. R. Woodruff; New York City Mission, Rev. John S. Sharp; Brooklyn City Mission, Rev. W. H. Johnson; Rev. W. H. Miller, to be Agent of the Bible Society; Rev. Joshua Hudson, superannuated.

THE MISSOURI TEST OATH CASE.

Montgomery Blair on the Refusal of Francis Blair, Jr., to Take the Oath.

[From the Washington Intelligencer, March 16.]

We have read the brief of the Hon. Montgomery Blair, filed before the United States Supreme Court in the cause of Francis P. Blair, Jr., vs. John S. Thompson and Stephen Ridgely. This is the celebrated test oath case, and involves the validity of the elaborate oath of expurgation required as a preliminary to suffrage by the constitution of Missouri. General Blair, it will be recollected, refused to take this oath, and his vote being refused, he has brought this suit, which will determine the right of 90,000 persons to vote in the State of Missouri and, at least, double that number in other States now excluded. We assume, of course, that the court will meet the question now raised. The former decision in the case of *ex parte* Garland and that of Judge Chase, very lately in the Davis case at Richmond, are invoked and the whole subject is argued with unusual precision and a force of reasoning from which there would seem to be no escape. Among the facts mentioned in the brief is the very extraordinary one that this inhibition is imposed and enforced by radicals who were secessionists under color of State authority at the outbreak of the war, and then in full sympathy and alliance with the Confederate movement; while, on the other hand, General Blair, who fought all through the war, and has ever been a Union man, is disfranchised because he then promptly took up arms against General Jackson and his State Legislature in their efforts to carry the State out of the Union. While these radicals, now in full feather and "trooly loil," were either dodging or aiding the Confederates, General Blair was striking blows for the Union cause—the legal operation of which now is to bring him within the scope of the Missouri disfranchisements. These extend to persons who have ever been in armed hostility to the State government of Missouri.

We await with much solicitude the decision of the court.

SHIPPING NEWS.

Almanac for New York—This Day.

Sun rises ..... 6 09 | Moon sets ..... eve 10 21
Sun sets ..... 6 09 | High water ... eve 11 15

Weather Along the Coast.

MARCH 16—9 A. M.

Port.	Wind.	Weather.	Thermometer.
Plaister Cove	NW	Clear	32 above
Halifax	N	Clear	21 above
Portland	W	Clear	19 above
Boston	NW	Clear	24 above
New York	NW	Clear	28 above
Fortress Monroe	NE	Cloudy	34 above
Richmond	NE	Clear	28 above
Charleston	ENE	Cloudy	50 above
Key West	NE	Clear	74 above
Havana	—	Cloudy	76 above

PORT OF NEW YORK, MARCH 16, 1869.

Herald Packages.

Captains and Pursers of Vessels arriving at this port will please deliver all packages intended for the HERALD to our regularly authorized agents who are attached to our Steam Yacht fleet. The New York Associated Press do not now collect marine reports nor attend to the delivery of packages, as will be seen by the following extract from the proceedings of the regular monthly meeting, held March 3, 1868:—

Resolved, That on and after April 1, 1868, the Associated Press will discontinue the collection of ship news in the harbor of New York. Passed unanimously.

☞ The office of the Herald steam yachts JAMES and JEANNETTE is at Whitehall slip. All communications from owners and consignees to the masters of inward bound vessels will be forwarded free of charge.

CLEARED.

Steamship Russia (Br), Cook, Liverpool via Queenstown—E Cunard.

Steamship Manhattan (Br), Williams, Liverpool—Williams & Guion.

Steamship Leo, Dearborn, Savannah—Murray, Ferris & Co.

Steamship James Adger, Lockwood, Charleston—H R Morgan & Co.

Steamship Albemarle, Couch, Norfolk, City Point and Richmond—N L McCready.

Bark Capella (NG), Christoffers, Antwerp—Thiele, Motz & Co.

Bark Marianna 2d (Port), Palba, Lisbon—L E Amsinck & Co.

Bark Courier (NG), Selu, Montevideo and Buenos Ayres—Funch, Meincke & Co.

Bark Cardenas, Paine, Cienfuegos—J E Ward & Co.

Bark S W Swasey, Swasey, Savannah—N L McCready & Co.

Brig Scio (Br), Brown, Cienfuegos—Miller & Houghton.

Schr M A Witham, Partridge, Marauham and Para—Witham & Ogilvie.

Schr Summerville (Br), Marsters, Halifax, NS—H J De Wolf.

Schr Maud Mallock, Bartlett, Galveston—H R Morgan & Co.

Schr A C Noyes, Crowell, Corpus Christi—Thorne, McFarland & Co.

Schr J Slusman, Weaver, Jacksoville—Van Brunt & Slaght.

Schr Annie Lewis, Kirby, Brunswick, Ga—T M Mayhew & Co.

Schr Ben, Rollins, Wilmington, NC—E S Powell.

Schr John Forsyth, Applegate, Baltimore—Van Brunt & Slaght.

Schr J J Pharo, Soper, Baltimore—Bentley, Miller & Thomas.

Schr E M Duffield, Raynor, Philadelphia—W B Vondersmith.

Schr A W Thompson, Lawson, Hartford—G K Rackett & Bro.

Schr O C Acken, Hobbie, Stamford.

ARRIVALS.

REPORTED BY THE HERALD STEAM YACHTS.

Steamship Iowa (Br), Hedderwick, Glasgow via Moville Feb 28, with mdse and passengers, to Henderson Bros. Had strong westerly winds the whole passage.

Steamship Britannia (Br), Donaldson, Glasgow Feb 12, via Moville 20th, with mdse and passengers, to Henderson Bros. Experienced violent westerly gales almost the entire passage, being have to on several occasions. No date, lat 46, lon 44, spoke ship Elizabeth, from Cardiff for New York.

Steamship Henry Chauncey, Conner, Aspinwall, March 8, with mdse and passengers to the Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

Steamship San Jacinto, Atkins, Savannah, with mdse and passengers, to W R Garrison.

Steamship Champion, Lockwood, Charleston March 13, with mdse and passengers, to H R Morgan & Co.

Ship Valley Forge (of Gardiner), Berry, San Francisco, Nov 14, with wheat to Geo D Sutton. Crossed the equator in the Pacific Dec 7 in lon 126, passed Cape Horn Jan 14, and crossed the equator in the Atlantic Feb 16 in lon 38; had moderate weather.

Ship Thatcher Magoun (of Boston), Peterson, San Francisco, Dec 10, with flour, &c, to Bacon and Russell. Crossed the equator in the Pacific Dec 19 in lon 131; passed Cape Horn Jan 24, and crossed the equator in the Atlantic Feb 20, in lon 25 W; had very light NE and SE trades and had fine weather the whole passage. Feb 8, lat 25 23 S, lon 29 40 W, spoke ship Kent (Br), from Callao for Cork; 20th, lat 0 23 S, lon 38 43, ship Volunteer (of Boston), from Matanzas for NYork, 105 days out; March 3, lat 18 50 N, lon 56 34 W, ship Brenda (Br), from Bremen for New Orleans, 48 days out. The T M went ashore on the 15th inst, at 7:50 A M, about one mile north of Gedney's Channel in a thick snowstorm and lays in the same position perfectly tight, discharging cargo in lighters and expects to get off on the next high water.

ship Tasmanian (Br), Driver, Liverpool, 59 days, with mdse to H J De Wolf & Co. First part of passage had heavy westerly gales; latter part moderate weather. March 13, lat 37 29, lon 70 39, spoke ship Ellen Thompson, from Calcutta for Boston, 104 days out.

Ship Washington Booth (of Baltimore), Canby, Boston, 3 days, in ballast, to S W Osgood. Will load for San Francisco.

Bark Alaska (of San Francisco), Higgins, San Francisco via Alitata (Mexico), 107 days, with dyewood and guano, to Willette & Co. Experienced very bad weather all the passage. March 6, lat 29 40, lon 74 33, was boarded by whaling bark Pacific, of New Bedford, was five months out and no whales; March 11, came in collision with brig George Emma, carrying away our bowsprit and false bow; tried the pumps and found her not making any water; damage to the George Emma not ascertained, having lost sight of her in about 15 minutes after the collision. Captain Mooney states that bark Alaska as chief mate Oct 1, and on the 8th was missing, supposed that he had deserted; sent his clothes ashore; Oct 10, found him dead in the hold, supposed he had taken poison; found on his person two letters, one directed to the coroner of San Francisco, and the other to Capt Stewart, of the Sailors' Home, saying in his letter that he had committed suicide by taking laudanum; also found in his pocket a $100 in gold, a silver watch and a pistol belonging to the ship.

Bark Minne (NG), Stunkel, Newcastle, 30 days, with mdse, to H & F W Meyer. Had heavy westerly gales the whole passage; stove bulwarks and deck house, split plank shear and received other damage.

Bark Mary A Way, Russell, Palermo, 44 days, with fruit to Lawrence, Giles & Co. Have been 18 days westward of Bermuda with strong N and NW gales. Passed Gibraltar Feb 7 in company with bark Jehu, from Messina for Boston; Feb 21, lat 26, lon 41, spoke ship Cowaspu Johanfur, from Bombay for Liverpool; March 9, lat 30, lon 70 30, bark Humboldt, from London for Philadelphia; 10th, exchanged signals with Br bark Josephine, for England. The M A W is consigned to Walsh, Field & Way.

Bark Ibis, Crabtree, Cadiz, 50 days, with mdse, to Tupper & Beatie. Has had strong N and NW gales the last 16 days.

Brig Annie Bachelor (of Philadelphia), Stillman, Marseilles, 55 days, with mdze, to Boyd & Hincken. Had moderate weather up to Bermuda; since strong W and NW gales, and been 18 days north of there.

Brig Kodiak, Downing, Malaga, 55 days, with fruit, to Wm Wallace. Had heavy SW and NW gales south of Hatteras; since fine weather. March 3, no lat, &c, spoke brig Charlena, From Portland for Sagua, no date; lat 24 30, lon 66 40, bark Eveline, from London for Satilla River.

Brig Pacifico (Ital), Savarese, Naples, 61 days, with fruit to James Robinson & Co; vessel to Funch, Meincke & Co.

Brig Nellie, Verdon, Ponce, PR, Feb 28, with sugar to Roche Bros & Coffey.

Brig Humming Bird (Br), Stevens, Cienfuegos, 17 days, with sugar and molasses, to J F Whitney & Co. March 19, lat 34 20, lon 75 40, spoke schr Emma G, from Cienfuegos for St John, NB.

Schr Samos (of Boston), Chandler, Havana, 11 days, with sugar to Phillip Dater; vessel to Vernon H Brown & Co.

Schr Helene, Rahrs, Jacksonville via Nassau 10 days (where she put in in distress, with lumber, to Jonas Smith & Co. No date, off Absecom, in 17 fathoms water, saw a sunken schr with both masts above water.

Schr Mable Hall (of Rockland), Hall, Pensacola, 23 days, with lumber, to W S Brown & Co. Had strong northerly winds up to Hatteras; since light southerly winds.

Schr Willie Lee, Whiting, Thomaston, with lime to Jas V Haviland.

Schr Mary Brewer, Pease, Rockland, with lime to Wm S Brown.

Schr W C Hall, Pressey, Rockland.

Schr E C Averill, Fales, Rockland.

Schr Nile, Spear, Rockland.

Schr Z Snow, Thorndike, Portland for Baltimore.

Schr Paugussett, Staples, Newburyport.

Schr F Nickerson, Kelly, Boston for Philadelphia.

Schr Nellie Brown, Higgins, Boston for Richmond.

Schr Iola, Taylor, Provincetown.

Schr Hesperus, Conery, Hudson's Cove (Cape Ann).

Schr Charles, Spears, Taunton.

Schr Messenger, Dean, Taunton.

Schr M J Mead, Thrasher, Taunton.

Schr B D Prince, Purvere, Wellfleet. (Arrived 15th.)

Schr Matchless, Baker, Wellfleet.

Schr Ellen Barnes, Clifford, Fall River for Norfolk.

Schr A Falkenburg, Terrell, Providence.

Schr N Holmes, Northup, Providence.

Schr Marcellus, Remick, Providence.

Schr J Patton, Parker, Providence.

Schr W R Genn, ——, Providence.

Schr Ann Elizabeth, Phillips, Pawtucket.

Schr T P Cooper, Sleeper, Newport.

Schr Goddess, Kelly, Newport.

Schr Breeze, Barnett, Norwich.

Schr Susan Scranton, Harvey, New Haven.

Schr Julia R Clark, Ogden, New Haven.

Schr Alex L Massey, Blizzard, New Haven.

Schr M A Hyer, Ethridge, New Haven.

Schr P S Lindsey, Emery, New Haven.

Schr A S Parker, Carpenter, Glen Cove.

Schr David Nelson, Studwell, Port Chester.

Schr Sarah Jane, Fordham, Old Field.

Sloop Rhode Island, Rhodes, Bristol.

SAILED.

Steamships Cumbria, Hamburg; James Adger, Charleston; Albemarle, Norfolk; Leo, Savannah; ship Tanjore (from Liverpool), Boston, in tow of steamtug Chas Pearson, of Boston.

Also steamship Don, Matanzas.

Wind at sunset SW.

American Shipmasters' Association.

NO. 51 WALL STREET—ROOMS 23, 25 AND 27.

The following approved masters have received commissions from this association:—

Captains—Nos 5716, Gilbert L Fullerton, brig Mary Maria; 5719, Benjamin Westhaver, brig Alpha; 5719, Abraham W Whiting, brig Machias; 5718, Wilson G Hammond, brig Susie J Strout; 5696, Wm H Mount, schr Susan Wright; 5721, Urvin C Davis, bark Lavinia; 5720, Richard L Norton, schr Alice A Handell; 5717, Wm H Heath, ship Game Cock (mate); 5724, Nathaniel P Allen, schr A Richards; 5725, George M Peters, schr Iris; 5726, Wm McLeod, brig Sarah Helen. Mates—Nos 5714, Andro H Wass, ship Ladoga; 5722, Frank F Robinson; 5722, Henry T Wright; 5726, Henry C Graham; 5727, Owen C Austin.

All commissions not renewed annually are invalid.

Shipping Notes.

The schr Annie Whiting, 181 tons, built in Castine in 1866, and consigned to Messrs Miller & Houghton, of this city, is on one of the screw docks near the foot of Market slip. The condition of her bottom calls for an extensive patching of her yellow metal sheathing, which was put on her in September, 1867. The clipper ship Swallow, 1239 tons, built in Boston by R E Jackson in 1854, and belonging to Thatcher Magoun & Son, of that city, will be taken up by the great balance dry dock near the foot of Pike slip this afternoon. She is to be stripped of her old and furnished with a new suit of yellow metal sheathing and thoroughly caulked. The tugboat Wm A Hennessey, belonging to her captain, Andrew Hennessey, is on the Nelson & Townsend dry dock foot of Gouverneur street, and the three-masted schr A Heaton, 180 tons, built in East Haven in 1861, and belonging to this port, is on the People's dry dock, same location.

Marine Disasters.

SHIP HARPSWELL, Qusley, is stated in a cable telegram from London to have been abandoned. The H left Havre Nov 29 for New York, and nothing more concerning her transpired until a life buoy with her name on it was picked up on the 19th ult on the coast of Scotland, as previously published. We have no particulars except that the captain and crew were landed at Lisbon prior to 15th inst. The H registered 683 tons, was built at Harpswell, Me, in 1855, and was owned by Boyd & Hincken, of this city.

SHIP NORTH AMERICAN—Liverpool, March 15—Ship North American (of New York), Mitchell, from Batavia Nov 14 for Rotterdam, while entering the Tagus, sunk to her main deck, which is under water at high tide. [She was no doubt putting in in distress.]

SHIP THATCHER MAGOUN, ashore on the northern edge of Gedney's Channel, remains in the same position. Lighters are alongside taking out cargo. The weather is favorable, and she will probably come off at next high water.

SHIP GERMANIA, from Philadelphia for Bremen, which put into Halifax, NS, in distress, was repaired and nearly loaded, when a leak was discovered. She was careened, leak stopped and reloading 15th, and is expected to sail on the 18th inst.

SHIP BELLE OF THE SEA, Spear, from Philadelphia, before reported arrived at La Paz, was 176 days on the passage, and had all of her crew except two down with the scurvy on her arrival. The second mate died at sea from its effects.

BARK UNION, Skinner, from New York Dec 3 for San Francisco, put into Rio Janeiro prior to Jan 30 in distress, of what nature not stated.

SHIP ASTREA, Barnes, from Philadelphia Feb 8 with coal for Acapulco, put into Bermuda 2d inst, for what purpose not stated.

BARK CLARA ANN, Dearborn, sailed from New York Dec 31, with a cargo of coal, for Aspinwall,