POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Approaching State Conventions.

The Republican Pot Boiling—Greeley Ahead for the Nomination for Governor—Woodford Next—Marshall O. Roberts Out, Greeley In—Greeley "Never Backs Out"—Hoffman the First and Last Choice of the Democracy—Family Jars Among the Republicans.

OPINIONS OF THE RURAL PRESS.

The "Best Citizens" Called for by the Republicans.

[From the Sing Sing Republican (rep.), Sept. 1.]

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES.

A few weeks ago there were several names mentioned in connection with the nomination of Governor at the Saratoga Convention, the most prominent of which we mentioned last week. As the time approaches for holding the Convention the names canvassed for that office have been narrowed down to some two or three. Neither of these gentlemen can be said to have taken an active part in the party differences which have done so much to retard the influence of the republican party in this State. Each is a thorough, unflinching republican who has been firm in their maintenance of principle during the darkest hours of the party. We are gratified that the public sentiment of the great mass of republicans has united on such men. It is men of high character for probity, patriotism, ability and wide renown that are so much needed as candidates for office. We have had too many inferior men aspiring for office, and their nominations have done more injury than their active opposition could do, for intelligent citizens cannot be persuaded to support them. Let us have State and local tickets made up with the names of our best citizens upon them.

Roberts Out—Greeley In.

[From the Buffalo Courier (dem.), September 1.]

The retirement of Mr. Roberts leaves Mr. Greeley the most prominent figure on the field. It is a curious fact that if Mr. Greeley were running for Congress, or were offered the Senatorial honors to which he has so long aspired, he would be disqualified by reason of his inability to take the iron-clad test oath. Any one of a hundred of his disloyal utterances during the war—to say nothing of his having stood as bondsman for Jeff Davis—would interdict him, adept at swearing as he is, from swallowing the formidable oath prepared for southern degludition at the door of Congress. But we would cheerfully urge an act of Congress for the removal of his disabilities. Indeed, we do not allude to his unfortunate status with any idea of injuring his chances for Gubernatorial nomination, but merely to explain the fact stated by himself, that there are five or ten thousand of the truly loyal voters of this State who will not, under any circumstances, give him their suffrages.

Anti-Hoffman Men Gnawing Files.

[From the Haverstraw (Rockland county) Messenger (dem.) Sept. 1.]

JOHN T. HOFFMAN.

For those reckless partisan journals which can so far pervert the character of their calling as to seek a little political capital among the most ignorant and debased of readers by attributing mean personal motives to Governor Hoffman in his exercise of the pardoning power, few words are needed, silent scorn and contempt best befit their case. It may safely be said that in the long line of illustrious executives which have honored the chair of the State of New York, not one has brought to the discharge of all his varied duties, including that most difficult, trying and onerous one, the prerogative of pardon, a more intelligent, careful and conscientious rectitude of mind and soul than has John T. Hoffman. They gnaw a file who strive to sully the purity of his conduct, private or public. His opinions and his acts are proper subjects for criticism to those who disapprove of them; but assaults on his character merely recoil on the impotent malice which impels them.

Republican Cliques Must be Crushed Out and Grant's Administration Endorsed.

[From the Schenectady Union (rep.), Sept. 17.]

The importance of the coming State Convention will suggest at once the wisdom of sending to it men who will faithfully uphold the principles of the party and be guided by a loyal motive to nominate such men as will unite the entire republican force in the coming canvass. Cliques must be repudiated and put down. The people must have unobstructed freedom to act their good pleasure. It will not do to have a few individuals arrogate to themselves supreme power, to cut and dry an entire programme, and then, when it is furnished to order, assume that it is the people that have done it.

Not among the least of the duties of the State Convention will be that of giving a hearty endorsement to the successful administration of General Grant. His administration is not without its enemies, who may undertake to make some capital in the Convention. It is one of the best of evidences that Grant has backbone and that he has the strength to stand up for the right that a few corrupt politicians even of his own party are hostile to him merely because he has stood in the way of their nice little plans for self-aggrandizement at the public expense. Grant must be sustained.

The State Sure for the Republicans, But Not for Greeley.

[From the Oneida Despatch (republican.)]

That the State can be carried this fall by the republicans we most firmly believe. We will not now stop to indicate fully the grounds of the confidence we feel further than to say that if the recent act of Congress to prevent fraud at elections can be enforced our victory is certain; for we have never doubted that a majority of the actual legal voters of the State are republicans. Let us, then, nominate our strongest man for Governor, and strong men for the rest of the ticket, and success is well nigh certain to crown our efforts.

At one time we hoped Mr. D. C. Littlejohn would consent to take the nomination, as we are confident he would poll a very large vote and be elected. But we understand that his earnest labors in connection with the Midland Railroad and other works of internal improvement preclude the possibility of his being a candidate.

In this view of the case we do not hesitate, then, to state that our preference is General Stewart L. Woodford, of Brooklyn, for Governor. We believe that he will poll more votes than any other man in the State, Governor Hoffman not excepted. Our reasons are as follows:—

First—General Woodford has been an active and consistent republican since the organization of the party, and has done an immense amount of service, both on and off the stump, in behalf of republican principles.

Second—General Woodford entered the army during the rebellion and made a good war record. He proved himself possessed of great courage as a soldier and of unusual executive ability as an officer.

Third—General Woodford has already been elected to the office of Lieutenant Governor, and discharged the duties of the office to the general satisfaction of the people. That he should be promoted to the office of Governor is both natural and proper.

Fourth—General Woodford is a young man and a splendid debater, and if nominated will at once take the stump and canvass the State from Niagara Falls to Montauk Point. He makes friends wherever he goes and a great many friends both for himself and his party wherever he speaks.

Fifth—General Woodford has no enemies or vulnerable points, and therefore would poll the full strength of his party. We believe a republican victory is possible with any candidate. We believe that with General Woodford at the head of our ticket we would be well nigh sure of success.

Family Jars Among the Republicans in Ulster—Our United States Marshal in the Melee.

[From the Albany Argus (democratic), September 1.]

The radicals are having a lively family quarrel in Ulster county. In the Kingston Assembly district the quarrel arose out of the respective aspirations of George H. Sharpe, United States Marshal, and Thomas Cornell, for the position of member of the State Central Committee, with the effect to bring out clearly the intense hostility that has long been understood to exist between two factions in the party there. In Kingston, it is claimed, the caucus was packed by the Sharpe men, through the efforts of under officials from Sharpe's office and the Custom House, and the balloting for delegates was pushed through with undue haste and before reasonable time had been given for the assembling of the electors from Rondout, it being alleged that the organization, balloting and adjournment were all effected within a period of ten minutes.

This produced so much dissatisfaction that finally another and a contesting delegation was chosen. At the district convention at Sangerties, on Saturday last, a large number of the "faithful" were present to see how the fight would end. The result was two delegations to the Saratoga Convention, as follows:—Regulars—Samuel J. Cuykendall, William M. Heyes and B. M. Coon; Irregulars—William S. Kenyon, Egbert Whittaker and Henry M. Crane. The "happy family" will fight it out at Saratoga on Wednesday next, with every probability that the quarrel will merge itself into the Fenton and Conkling controversy, and the triumph be that of the strongest faction in the State Convention.

POLITICAL NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Dorsey B. Thomas has withdrawn from the canvass for Congress in the Tennessee Sixth district.

N. N. Cox publishes a card in the Franklin (Tennessee) *Review* announcing his withdrawal from the race for Congress in the district. He is under no disabilities, but says he cannot take the test oath if elected.

A recent canvass of the First district of Maine shows that John Lynch will be returned to Congress by 1,060 majority.

The Republican Convention of Washington county, Me., unanimously instructed their Senators to vote for Morrill's re-election to the United States Senate.

Colonel I. G. Kissick, of Union, has been nominated on the Union Reform platform for Congress from the South Carolina Fourth district.

John M. Crebs, democratic Congressman from Illinois, and candidate for re-election, has given this "frank and manly" notice to the colored voters of his district:—

I do not want the negro to vote for me. The negro would be a fool to vote the democratic ticket. Let him stand by his friends. The republican party gave him all his rights. Let him stand by that party.

William C. Moreau, formerly a republican, for whom the party did not go fast enough, accepted a democratic nomination for Congress in Indiana. On proceeding to canvass his district he was partially paralyzed. The Cincinnati *Enquirer* reports him "speechless" at last accounts.

Major J. G. Harris, of Sumter, is likely to be tendered the democratic nomination for Congress in the Alabama Fourth district.

CITY POLITICS.

The Approaching Election—Republican Primaries—Election of Delegates to the Saratoga Convention—A Little "Soreheadism."

The republicans last evening opened their fall political campaign by electing delegates to represent the several Assembly districts at the State Convention, which is to meet on Wednesday next at Saratoga. In most of the districts the election passed off quietly, and there was a feeling of greater unanimity apparent than has been witnessed at like gatherings for the past two or three years. In nearly all the districts there was a very large vote cast. The principal topic of discussion was regarding the probable candidates to be put before the people. In three districts two sets of delegates were elected, both of which claim to be "regular." In the Eighteenth district Christopher Pullman ran a ticket with posters, substituting himself for Thomas Rightmire, but he was badly defeated. There was considerable interest in the Eleventh district, in which Edwin D. Morgan was substituted for James L. Hastie on the defeated ticket, and John H. White and Thomas C. Aston for John S. Gilmore and Jacob Wells. The following are the names of the delegates elected:—

FIRST DISTRICT.—Delegates, Henry Smith, Alonzo B. Cornell. Alternates, Nathan Kingsley, Sr., Samuel N. La Comte.

SECOND DISTRICT.—Delegates, Henry G. Leask, Morris Friedsam. Alternates, Gilbert Lowe, John Sullivan.

THIRD DISTRICT.—Delegates, John Fitch, James Terwilliger. Alternates, E. A. Willoughby, A. Borst.

FOURTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, James McLaren, William H. McKinney. Alternates, E. S. Newins, Henry Bausher.

FIFTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, James Winterbottom, Robert Edwards, David Walker. Alternates, Anthony Yeoman, John J. Silcock, William C. Hanna.

SIXTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, James M. McCartin, Hugh Nesbitt. Alternates, Robert Carson, James H. Anderson.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Joseph W. Howe, A. J. H. Duganne, Henry Thompson. Alternates, Thomas E. Stewart, J. Wilson Greene, William Hepburn.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.—John D. Lawson, General Alfred Pleasonton, James A. Richmond. Alternates, Colonel F. A. Conkling, Colonel B. T. Morgan, Cornelius Van Cott.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Alonzo B. Cornell, John J. O'Brien, John Stinson. Alternates, Henry C. Atwood, Samuel A. Roberts, James A. Lucas.

NINTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Sinclair Tousey, James W. Faw, J. Solis Ritterband, Norman Stratton. Alternates, John M. Costa, James W. Booth, Fred. H. Clark, Geo. F. Merkiee.

TENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Lewis J. Kirk, Jacob M. Patterson, Jr., Daniel Sullivan. Alternates, William H. Lockwood, Adam Fans, William A. Smalley.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Marshall O. Roberts, Edward Pierrepont, James L. Hastie. Alternates, John V. Gridley, John S. Gilmore, Jacob Wells.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Thomas Hayes, William Burns. Alternates, Charles Diecks, Joseph Hazell.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Charles S. Spencer, Hugh Gardner, James Hunter. Alternates, John A. Meek, John Miller, Andrew A. Scheidler.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, John Cochrane, F. C. Wagner. Alternates, John Kehoe, Benjamin Jicquel.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, E. Harrison Reed, George W. De Cunha, Sheridan Shook. Alternates, Joseph B. Pollock, George F. Hopper, William S. Murray.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Henry D. Lapaugh, Dr. Alexander Wilder, Carl Schwedler. Alternates, Captain Charles J. Farley, Dr. Emile W. Hieber, Hugh Turner.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, William Atkinson, General John A. Foster, Henry Beeny. Alternates, William L. Raymond, Alexander Clinch, Thomas Murray.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.—Delegates, Chester A. Arthur, Rufus F. Andrews, Thomas F. Rightmire. Alternates, Spencer Kirby, Josiah W. Thompson, George W. Lyon.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.—Delegates, William A. Darling, George Opdyke, James Owens. Alternates, Daniel W. Lee, Thomas Robinson, Mortimer C. Lee.

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.—Delegates, Robert C. Brown, James H. Welsh, Edward J. Salmon. Alternates, Michael A. Reed, James M. Boyd, Asher Barnett.

BROOKLYN POLITICS.

Republican State Convention.

The Brooklyn republicans held their district conventions last night for the election of delegates to the State Convention, which will be held on the 7th inst. Some of the conventions were not the most harmonious, though the services of the police were not called into requisition. The names of the delegates are as follows:—

FIRST DISTRICT—Henry C. Bowen and Charles R. Phillips.

SECOND DISTRICT—B. F. Tracy, John Lee, William Stewart and C. T. Tate.

THIRD DISTRICT—James L. Lansing and M. P. Phillips.

FIFTH DISTRICT—E. D. Webster, David S. Stewart, Anthony F. Campbell and E. B. Lansing.

SIXTH DISTRICT—General Isaac Catlin, Samuel Goodwin, Robert J. Rudd.

SEVENTH DISTRICT—Benjamin Wilson and S. T. Maddox.

EIGHTH DISTRICT—George C. Bennett, A. M. Bliss, William F. Jennings.

A HARD-HEARTED HUSBAND.

Arrest of a Well-to-do German for Cruel Treatment of His Wife.

John Sohn, a German, living at Morrisania, Westchester county, and reputed to be worth $40,000, was brought before Justice Fullen, at the Town Hall in that village yesterday, having been arrested on a warrant obtained by his wife, who charges him with refusing to procure proper medical attendance and nourishment for her during an illness which was superinduced by his cruel treatment and neglect. It was stated before the justice that the complainant had been kept constantly employed by her husband in the garden, doing rough and laborious work, and that she was often compelled to take in washing for the purpose of earning money to purchase clothing for herself. Having recently been prostrated with a febrile complaint she requested the services of a physician, when her husband, instead of obtaining medical advice, procured ten cents' worth of Epsom salts, which he presented to the invalid with the intimation that she required, and would receive nothing else. In permitting the accused to go on his parole, the justice remarked that he should hold him strictly responsible for his future treatment of his wife, and especially cautioned him as to his duty as a husband and protector during her illness.

STEAM NAVIGATION TO TRENTON.

Proposed Improvements on the Delaware.

By a late act of Congress the sum of $10,000 was appropriated to aid in removing the obstructions to the navigation of the Delaware river as far as Trenton, N. J. The chief obstacle to the passage of steamboats is an immense sand bar at Perriwig, about four miles from Trenton. No vessel passes at present except a solitary steamboat plying between Trenton and Philadelphia. The city authorities of the Jersey capital are expected to assist in the work of removing the obstructions. When the bar is removed ordinary vessels can traverse the river from Trenton to the ocean. The irrepressibles of Camden and Amboy are already snarling at the exertions of Mr. Haight, the representative of the Fifth district, to have engineers appointed for the survey of the obstructions. It is thought by some that the railroad authorities will be powerful enough to baffle such an attempt to encroach on their monopoly.

MERCER COUNTY (N. J.) COURT OF SESSIONS.

In the Mercer county Court of Special Sessions yesterday, Judge Reed presiding, the following prisoners pleaded guilty and were sentenced:—Mary Green, for assault, with intent to kill, two months in the County Prison; John McManus, drunkenness and disorderly conduct, three months; John Maguire, a youth of twelve years, stealing grapes, sent to the Reform School; George Nelson, petit larceny, ninety days; William Mullinaux, assaulting an officer, six months in the Penitentiary.

THE NEWBURG ASSASSIN.

Robert Buffum Attempts Suicide in a Horrible Form.

He Dashes His Head Upon the Stone Floor of His Cell, Using a Chair to "Dive" From—His Purpose Frustrated—The Murderer Undoubtedly Insane—History of His Case.

NEWBURG, N. Y., Sept. 2, 1870.

At noon to-day the citizens of Newburg were startled by the rumor that Robert Buffum, the murderer of John L. Seaverns, had attempted to commit suicide in his cell. The following are the

FACTS IN THE CASE:—

Shortly before noon some of the prisoners in the Newburg jail, looking through the grated door of Buffum's cell, saw the murderer in the very act of a most extraordinary attempt to commit suicide. His *modus operandi* was as follows:—Standing on a chair he dived down on the stone floor of his cell, striking on the top of his head. This act was performed eight or ten times before the jailer could open the cell door and stop the performance. After each plunge Buffum remained for a few moments as if stunned, and then reviving he would get on the chair again and dash himself to the floor. When the door was opened several of the prisoners rushed in (they enjoying the freedom of a corridor into which Buffum's cell opens) and seized the murderer. He struggled with all his remaining strength, but was at length overpowered and held down on his bed by three of the strongest of the prisoners. The cell presented

A HORRIBLE SPECTACLE.

The floor was covered with blood from the terrible wounds on the prisoner's head. Blood was spattered about on the walls of the cell and the prisoner's clothes were saturated with the crimson fluid. The cell looked more like a slaughter pen than one of the choice apartments in the Newburg jail. While dashing his head against the floor the murderer yelled

"The Masons are coming after me; they are going to cut me up alive; I must get away from them; they will cut me up into inch-pieces," &c.

Dr. Edward E. Lee was called, and on making an examination found several deep cuts in the scalp, but not necessarily dangerous wounds unless erysipelas should supervene. The reason the skull was not fractured by these repeated divings was that the scalp was unusually thick—nearly an inch in thickness.

THE SCALP DID GOOD SERVICE

as a cushion for the skull. The marvel was that the wretch's neck was not broken in his suicidal gymnastics. The attempt was made in one of his insane paroxysms, of which he himself has spoken, and in which he says he has an uncontrollable desire to kill somebody. On this occasion there was nobody else within reach, so he undertook to kill himself. During his struggles with the prisoners he spoke of seeing

CATS IN THE CELL,

and wanted to make his escape from these creatures of his imagination. He also said that Mr. Svearns had been a Mason, and that was one reason why he had "got him out of the way." At the moment when the prisoners mastered him he groaned out "Oh, my children!" This is the only indication he has given of late that he bestows any thought upon his family. When the insane paroxysm passed off Buffum was found to be greatly weakened through loss of blood. Under Dr. Lee's directions he was removed from his cell to a large room on the second floor of the Court House (the jail being situated in the basement of the building), where he could get plenty of fresh air; he was laid,

QUITE EXHAUSTED, ON A COT

in this room, and when I saw him, about one o'clock to-day, he conversed quite rationally again; he complained of the stories told about him; said he, "Two-thirds of these stories are false, and that is one reason why I tried to save my brains out. I never did anything wrong intentionally. I have nothing against anybody."

To a remark made by his counsel, J. Hallock Drake, that he would be well taken care of, he said, looking up significantly, "yes, if I live." In reply to a question by Dr. Lee as to how he felt, he said, "Oh, I feel right now, except this cut on my head." When asked by a Baptist minister, Rev. E. W. Bliss, in whose visits the prisoner seems to take great comfort, how he came to make

THIS ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE,

he said, "Oh I know they are going to kill me, and I thought I would get ahead of them."

The reverend gentleman expostulated with him, telling him of the enormity of thus adding crime to crime. The criminal seemed to feel the full force of what the dominie had said, and expressed penitence on account of his crimes. To this gentleman he admitted that he remembered the circumstances preceding and attending the murder; buying the pistol, entering the kitchen behind Mr. Seaverns, firing the fatal shot, &c.

"But," said he, "I was mad with rum. I saw Mr. Seaverns abuse his son Joe, who was my friend, and I could not stand it. I had the feeling that I must kill him. Half an hour after I killed him I would have given the world if I had not done it. I felt awful. But it was the rum in me that did it."

On Thursday morning, when Rev. Mr. Bliss visited the jail, the murderer was found in great concern of mind on account of his crime. He was

WEEPING AND SOBBING

as if his heart would break. He said he had prayed to God for many hours that He would forgive him his wickedness. On Friday afternoon, after his attempt to commit suicide, he promised Mr. Bliss that he would not repeat the attempt. He desired to have a Bible and some religious papers sent to him, and Mr. Bliss promised to get them for him. But no one puts confidence in Buffum's promise that he will not again try to destroy himself. He will hereafter be

WATCHED NIGHT AND DAY

and taken care of by two men. If left alone he would undoubtedly attempt to destroy himself the moment the next paroxysm seizes him.

To-day Buffum said to Sheriff Tuthill, "When this 'killing feeling' comes over me I am liable to kill the nearest one I can get at. I would be as likely to kill you as anybody else if you happened to get in my way."

The Sheriff told him, very decidedly, that if he showed any symptoms of that kind towards himself he (the prisoner) would get very rough handling. The examination of the murderer, previous to his commital to await the action of the Grand Jury, which was set down for ten o'clock on Saturday morning, will probably be postponed, as the prisoner will not be able to leave his bed to put in an appearance. The impression is gaining ground in Newburg that

BUFFUM IS INSANE

and would be a fitter inmate of the asylum than of the jail.

The following letter from Dr. Bemis, received in Newburg yesterday, will tend to strengthen that impression, while it throws considerable light on this painful case:—

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
WORCESTER LUNATIC HOSPITAL,
WORCESTER, Mass., Sept. 1, 1870.

Dr. EDWARD E. LEE, M. D., Newburg, N. Y.:—

MY DEAR SIR—On the 12th of March, 1868, Robert Buffum, of Salem, Mass., was committed to this hospital. The following is the record made at the time of his commitment.

Robert Buffum, of Salem; married; aged forty; soldier; served three years in United States Army and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant; served some of the time as a spy; is now broken down, both in health and mind; not violent, but wandering.

When this man was brought to us he was very much emaciated, and exceedingly feeble. It was not thought he would live long. He soon improved, however, and in September following he was so much better that he was permitted to walk out on the grounds and about town by himself; and his condition was reported as "favorable rather than otherwise." After being upon parole about a month he escaped, and on being returned to the hospital was restrained from going out altogether. He went on improving slowly; and gradually through the autumn and winter, going out occasionally with an attendant. During all this time, feeble as he was, he seemed to be somewhat excited upon matters pertaining to the war, and was fond of relating his sufferings, his trials and his escapes. He also manifested a strong disposition for intrigue among the patients, and delighted in getting up any little trouble in the ward, and often, in a spirit of bravado, declaring that his business was killing people—that he would as soon shoot a man as a dog. Becoming angry with his attendant he threatened his life. None of these threats were ever made in an open manner, but were generally heard of after the feeling of excitement had passed away. He went on, however, slowly improving, generally assisting in the lighter labors of the ward and frequently doing little acts of kindness for patients and attendants, and often desiring to do more than his circumstances would allow. He frequently appealed to the trustees for relief from what he considered his hard lot. He went on in this way through the year 1869 and the winter of 1870. In the spring, late in May, appearing considerably better, his conduct being quite unexceptionable, he was allowed to go out again by himself upon the grounds and about town, and continued to do so without interruption until the time of his leaving the hospital on the 13th of August. On the 17th of June I wrote to the overseers of the poor of the city of Salem, saying substantially that Buffum had improved so much in health of body and mind that if he was ever to be tried at large that the present was the proper time. I stated that his desire was to go to the West, and that he wished the city to furnish him money enough to get to the West, where he could take care of himself. Not having full confidence in the man I did not advise, but asked what should be done in the case. The following is the answer:—

SALEM, June 22, 1870.

DR. M. BEMIS:—

DEAR SIR—At a regular meeting of the overseers of the city, held the 21st, your letter of the 17th in relation to Robert Buffum was brought to their notice, and they decided to request his discharge from your institution, as they intend to take him to Salem; and if he is not a proper person to go at large he will be taken to our hospital. For the Overseers of the Poor of Salem. Respectfully,

DANIEL P. FITZ, Clerk.

P. S.—The overseers have no confidence in R. B., for his insanity was caused by intemperance; therefore it would not be policy to give him money to pay his passage West.

D. P. F.

On the 9th of August I wrote again to the Overseers of the Poor of the city of Salem, calling their attention to the case of Buffum in nearly the same terms as above.

The following is their answer:—

SALEM, August 11, 1870.

DR. M. BEMIS:—

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 9th inst. is received in relation to Robert Buffum, and in reply would say that June 21 the overseers voted to request the discharge of Mr. Buffum, and the request was mailed to you. But we have not heard from you in relation to that request. Our Board will meet Tuesday, the 16th, 1870.

For the Overseers of the Poor of Salem, respectfully,

DANIEL P. FITZ, Clerk.

On the 11th of August I wrote to the Overseers of the Poor, saying substantially that Mr. Buffum would be held at their service, and asking that a responsible person be sent for him.

The following is the answer:—

SALEM, August 12, 1870.

DR. M. BEMIS:—

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 11th is received in relation to Robert Buffum. You will please deliver Mr. Buffum to the bearer, Mr. Hun, who is one of our overseers. For the Overseers of the Poor of Salem, D. P. FITZ, Clerk.

Buffum left with Mr. Hun on the 13th of August, in the afternoon. In two or three days from this I was surprised to find him again wandering about the streets. The rest you know. Very respectfully,

M. BEMIS, M. D., Superintendent.

THE CITY'S WARDS.

Excursion of the Randall's Island Children to Greenwich, Conn.—Reception at the Residence of William M. Tweed.

Hundreds of little hearts beat happily on Randall's Island yesterday and twice as many little eyes glistened with delight. The children on the island under the care of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction had been invited by Mr. William M. Tweed to call on him at his country residence, in Greenwich, Conn. When the announcement was made to the children that they were to accept the invitation their delight knew no bounds,

A FLUTTER OF JOY

went through their hearts, and with hands and voice they expressed their great delight. The excursion to the same place which the boys had had last year had been fully commented on ever since that—to them at least—memorable day, and the announcement that the good time was to be renewed made them almost delirious. Yesterday was the day appointed for the

GRAND FETE,

and its approach was longed for and yet dreaded—dreaded lest the weather might be stormy and the excursion, therefore, deferred. On Thursday evening the children were put to bed early, so that they might have a good rest, in anticipation of the fatigue. They went to bed, but not necessarily to sleep. Many a little eye wandered toward the dormitory windows to see if there were any evidences of storm or rain. Many a little ear was cocked to catch the first sound, if any should occur, of rain or wind. Occasionally some dust would be rolled along the roof by the breeze or the leaves would be rustled, then the little spirits would droop and an ominous whisper would pass around,

"OH, PSHAW! IT'S RAINING!"

The little heads would sink despondently on their pillows, the half-moistened eyes would close, and then, with rushing of the waters through little Hell Gate dimly heard and the gentle rustle of the leaves acting as a lullaby,

Tired nature's sweet restorer,
Balmy sleep,

came to the little forms and smothered all the cares, fears and anxieties. Shortly after daybreak the sleepers were aroused.

THEIR FIRST THOUGHTS WERE OF THE DAY.

Everything betokened fine weather, and then their hearts beat so happily and their eyes glistened. They were washed and dressed and at six o'clock breakfasted, and then were ready to proceed on the journey as soon as the boat should come to take them.

At seven o'clock Commissioners Bell, Nicholson, Bowen, Brennan and Frear and a few friends repaired on board the Minnahanonck and started. Arriving at Randall's Island the girls of the institution and the boys, Randall's Island Guard, 280 in all, were taken on board and the boat moved away. The boys bore

THE BEAUTIFUL TWEED FLAG

which was presented to them on the occasion of their visit last year. The girls were dressed in light calico dresses and brown sundown hats. All looked remarkably neat and showed that they felt remarkably happy. The sail up the river and Sound was delightful. As the boat approached Ward's Island the whistle blew a salute. In a moment, from the guns on

THE SCHOOLSHIP MERCURY

the salute was answered. And in another moment the young navigators attached to the ship were seen scampering up the ladders and manning the yards

AS NIMBLE AS COONS ON A TREE.

There they stood like swarming flies on an immense asparagus top, waving their hats and cheering the steamboat as it passed. It was a sight well worth being seen. As the boat passed the dock the boys of the school on the island were drawn up in line. They, too, cheered the excursionists as loudly as they could, although they might have been somewhat envious and wished that they too had been of the party.

Arriving in due time at Greenwich dock the members of

THE AMERICUS CLUB,

in full uniform and with Gratulia's band, were found waiting to receive the party. Some sixty coaches had been secured, and in these the little wards, the members of the club and other guests were speedily seated, and amid the cheers from the large crowd which had assembled at the dock to see the show the party started for Linwood, the residence of Mr. Tweed. Arriving at the gate of the lane leading to

THE TWEED MANSION

the party left the coaches and formed in procession, the band leading them, the Americus Club in fours, then the little girls and lastly the Randall's Island guard. It seemed as if

ALL THE TOWN WAS OUT OF DOORS,

so great were the crowds that lined the streets on either side from the boat landing to the Tweed demesne.

After a short walk the grounds were reached and the

PRIVATE ELYSIUM

which met the eyes of the delighted youngters made them almost spellbound. The rare plants, luxuriant foliage and beautiful statuary with which the grounds abound were hastily scanned by the elated visitors. But up on the lawn was something which had substantial claims on their admiration.

The procession halted in front of the house where Mr. Tweed and his family, with a number of other ladies and gentlemen, were waiting to receive them. Mr. Tweed made a short, happy address,

WELCOMING THE LITTLE ONES,

and urging them to go around, make themselves at home, do as they pleased to make them feel so, not to spare the good things, and, finally, to "be virtuous and they would be happy."

Commissioner BELL returned thanks on behalf of the children and the Commissioners, and then introduced a little girl who delivered, in a sweet voice, a short address of gratitude to Mrs. Tweed and her family. During the delivery of the address

ALL PRESENT WERE VISIBLY AFFECTED,

and the ladies particularly were much moved. Mrs. Tweed was about to respond, but, with her eyes suffused, she was obliged to give way, and on her behalf Mr. Tweed made a brief reply. The children were then marched to the tents, where

A MAGNIFICENT SPREAD

met their gaze—sandwiches, cakes, candies, all sorts of ripe fruit, lemonade and soda water in abundance. Baskets of beautiful flowers adorned the tables and filled the air with perfume. The children ate, drank and made merry to their hearts' content, and when they stopped in the work of demolition the ladies of the household took from the towers of flowers small tastefully arranged bouquets and presented one to each of the children.

THEY ROMPED ABOUT THE GROUNDS,

gazed at the hothouses and other curiosities, watched with wondering eyes the gambols of the water from the unique fountain, and stored up in their minds memories which can never be effaced. After a few hours spent in thus enjoying themselves the procession was again formed, and, with adieus and fond and thankful glances by the little ones, the party proceeded to the carriages and were driven to the Americus Club House, at Indian Harbor. Here was

ANOTHER FEAST

prepared for them. This they enjoyed until they began to tire, when they re-embarked on board the Minnahanonck and started homeward. The cannon on the point and the club bell sent out to them a sounding and ringing

GOODBY,

to which they responded, the boys cheering, the girls waving their kerchiefs and hands, and many even shouting in their glee. The boat sped rapidly homeward, and by half-past six the young excursionists were landed at Randall's island, pretty tired but still light of heart.

THE ARRANGEMENTS THROUGHOUT

were most complete. There was no bustle or confusion, and everything passed off in a manner which left nothing to be regretted.

NEW YORK CITY.

Accidents, Deadly Assaults and Inquests—Miscellaneous News Items and Local Paragraphs.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours in comparison with the corresponding day of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's pharmacy, HERALD Building:—

	1869.	1870.		1869.	1870.
3 A. M.	55	77	3 P. M.	67	90
6 A. M.	55	76½	6 P. M.	66	87
9 A. M.	60	80	9 P. M.	65	82
12 M.	62	85	12 P. M.	61	79½

Average temperature yesterday 82½
Average temperature for corresponding date last year 61⅞

The Central Park Band will perform on the Mall at half-past four o'clock this afternoon if the weather is auspicious.

The Department of Public Parks announces that, if the weather be fine, there will be music by the Central Park Band in Central Park this afternoon, commencing at half-past four o'clock.

The Workingmen's Union of the city promises a fine entertainment, with plenty of amusement, in an afternoon and evening picnic at Funk's Park on Monday next.

The Erina Club gave a picnic at Funk's Union Park yesterday. There were dancing, flirtation and and the usual concomitants of such assemblies, and everything passed pleasantly.

Walter Taylor, the lad who was run over on Thursday evening, in Hudson street, near Desbrosses, by a freight car belonging to the Hudson River Railroad Company, died subsequently in the Centre Street Hospital. Deceased lived at No. 28 Laight street.

About eight o'clock yesterday morning Annie M. O'Neil, three years of age, whose parents live at No. 449 West Forty-fifth street, fell from the fourth story window to the sidewalk and was killed instantly. Mrs. O'Neil, the mother, was temporarily absent from the room at the time of the accident.

James Crea, thirty-eight years of age, and born in Ireland, died from the effects of injuries received on Tuesday last, by falling from the roof through the skylight of the gashouse in Forty-second street, near Eleventh avenue. Deceased resided at 555 West Forty-second street.

The free reading room of the Cooper Institute is once again open to its thousand *habitués* and all others who take a simple pleasure in gaining knowledge or learning what their fellow men are doing. It opens at eight A. M. and closes at ten P. M.

The corner stone of the new St. Alphonso's Mission church will be laid to-morrow, with impressive ceremonies, at four o'clock P. M., by Most Rev. Archbishop McCloskey. The church will be erected on Laurens street, near Canal, and all the Catholic Church societies will take part in the solemn service.

Yesterday an altercation occurred on Twenty-ninth street, near Eighth avenue, between Eugene Gess, of 252 West Twenty-ninth street, and James Knold and Christopher Berger, of 255 same street. Berger and Knold were slightly stabbed; but as they refused to make a complaint Gess was not held by Sergeant Brush, of the Twentieth precinct.

Patrick Smith, a laborer, yesterday morning fell from a wall, about fifty feet high, of Commodore Vanderbilt's railroad depot (Forty-second street and Fourth avenue) to the ground and was fatally injured. He was forthwith conveyed to Bellevue Hospital, but died on the way. Deceased lived at No. 556 Tenth avenue.

Collector Murphy has issued the following order in relation to the cartage of goods by Custom House cartmen:—

CUSTOM HOUSE, NEW YORK,
SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, August 24, 1870.

SIR—You will please instruct the Inspector of Customs that whenever public store or general order goods are landed from any vessel, and the said merchandise is not promptly removed from the wharf by the district Custom House cartmen, that the said goods shall be sent by any Custom House cart that can be got to perform the service on that day. Yours, &c., THOMAS MURPHY, Collector.

A. B. CORNELL, Surveyor.

Preparations are now being made for the Fair of the American Institute, which opens on Wednesday next, and on Thursday the reception of goods intended for exhibition began at the Empire Rink, on Third avenue. The exhibition of machinery is expected this year to be unusually interesting, as some remarkable modern inventions will be included. Among other machines will be found a diamond-pointed drill of a new pattern, and an ice-making machine, requiring 10,000 gallons of water an hour when in full operation, will also attract much attention. The show of flowers and fruit will be very fine, as the managers of the Institute have set apart $900 for prizes in this department. All articles forwarded for exhibition should be directed to the "American Institute Exhibition, Empire Rink, Third avenue, Sixty-third and Sixty-fourth streets, New York."

The Department of Public Works has awarded contracts according to law as follows:—

Forty-second street, from Tenth avenue to Hudson river, F. C. Crowley, $39,917; time 90 days. Thirteenth street, from First avenue to East river, same bidder, $32,515; time 100 days. Forty-sixth street, from Ninth avenue to Hudson river, same bidder, $33,649; time 90 days. Sixteenth street, from First avenue to avenue C, same bidder, $25,057 90; 60 days. Fifteenth street, from Eighth to Ninth avenue, same bidder, $9,520 90; 60 days. Fifty-fourth street, from Eighth to Ninth avenue, same bidder, $9,285; 90 days. Thirty-sixth street, from Seventh to Eighth avenue, same bidder, $9,398 40; 90 days. The streets mentioned are to be paved with stone block or Belgian pavement.

"JACK" AMONG LANDSHARKS.

The Proof That There is Something Wrong in the Marine Court—Trying to Find Out How Pseudo-Warrants are Manufactured—The Marine Court After the Scoundrels.

In yesterday's HERALD appeared a full exposure of the frauds perpetrated on seamen arriving at this port by certain designing persons who would seem to have full control over the seal and authority of the Marine Court. The case alluded to came up before Judge Dowling at the Tombs, in the examination of Deputy Sheriff O'Hara on the charge of having attempted to "fleece" John Dobbyns, the second mate of the ship Galatea, on a trumped-up charge of his having ill treated a sailor during the last voyage of the Galatea. A bogus warrant was made out for the arrest of Dobbyns, and in this way and by threats of Ludlow street jail, it was meant by the sharpers—viz., Deputy Sheriff O'Hara and Attorney Smith, to "bleed" Dobbyns of his money. In the examination on Wednesday, at the Tombs, Judge Dowling explicitly stated that he believed the warrant produced in evidence and alleged to be a genuine warrant was a fraud. Judge Joachimsen, of the Marine Court, seeing the report in the HERALD, became acquainted with the facts of the case and immediately set about ascertaining whether there had been issued from