THE STATE CAPITAL.

A Move Against the City Gas Corporations.

THE POLICE REFORM BILL.

MILITIAMEN IN THEIR GLORY.

The New Tax Levy Bill in the Senate.

The Broadway Pneumatic Tube Bill Creating a Breeze in the House.

ALBANY, March 16, 1871.

The gas companies will doubtless feel very much hurt about a bill introduced to-day by Mr. Genet, which, if it ever becomes a law, may have the effect of correcting very many abuses which the companies now profit by to an extent of which consumers of late years have had a most bitter experience, judging from the letters and petitions relative to the abuses which have been sent up here this year. There are those who will decry the bill because it places an immense power in the hands of the "Boss," who will have the appointing of the chief officers of the department proposed to be established, and on the ground that the city is to be saddled with an additional expense to be wrung from the taxpayers. However, opinions will certainly differ very widely as to the real merits of the bill, but it may be that gas consumers may find out that the tax to support the department would not in the long run be so hard to bear as the alleged swindles of the companies in the matter of overcharges. It should be borne in mind that the Legislature for years past has been cudgelling its brains to come to some satisfactory conclusion on this very gas subject, so troublesome to New York, and that the powerful influence of the companies, made golden in some cases in a costly way, have over and over again made every renewed effort in aid of consumers come to naught. Without venturing any opinion as to what fate the bill will meet with, or whether it will, instead of being

A BENEFIT TO THE METROPOLIS,

only add wrongfully to the political power of a few men already possessing much more than the share of ordinary mortals, I will content myself with giving the main features of the bill. The department to be established is to be known by the name of the "Department of Gas." The superintendent is to be appointed for a term of five years, at a salary not exceeding $7,000 per annum. He is to have the appointment of an inspector for each Senatorial district of the city and county, and as many deputy inspectors, clerks and subordinates as may be approved by the Commissioner, who is to fix all the salaries. The superintendent will be obliged to keep a record of all gas passing through each meter, and

CHANGE THE METERS

when necessary. Consumers are given the right to demand an inspection of their meters, and have them changed at the expense of the company which supplies them with gas if they are proved to be defective. All moneys paid for consumption of gas are to be paid to the Superintendent, whose receipt must be considered a discharge from all indebtedness. It is provided, besides, that no meter shall be removed or gas cut off without the approval in writing is obtained of the Superintendent, who is required to deposit the moneys received daily with the City Chamberlain. The fund thus accumulated is to be known as the "gas fund." The Superintendent is to keep an account of the amount collected for each gas corporation, which the Comptroller must pay over on warrants countersigned by the Superintendent and the Mayor. The salaries of all the gas officials, except that of the Superintendent, are to be paid out of the "gas fund." No increase in present rates of gas will be allowed except by further legislation. The act shall take effect on the 1st of June, 1871.

THE NEW YORK POLICE BILL,

which gives the Commissioners the power, by a unanimous vote, to retire into the obscurity of private life any captain or sergeant they may see fit, without beforehand giving him a trial to show cause why he has good reason to believe himself a very excellent sort of a fellow to club his fellow citizens and rule a ward to suit his own particular notions of discipline and profit, has been passed in the lower house. There was not a solitary vote against it. The measure will be a law by Friday afternoon next, as the Governor will have signed it by that time if the Senate do not sleep over it too long. Since the original introduction of the bill I have learned that the unanimous vote feature in the matter of dismissing a captain or a sergeant was advised by the Commissioners for a twofold purpose. One was, as I stated at the time, to get rid of the driftwood of the department that is now

FLOATING ABOUT

so thickly in some parts of the city as to interfere seriously with the good working of the police machinery. The other is, to use the language of one of the strongest friends of the bill, for the "protection" of each Commissioner; in other words, to prevent three Commissioners, in the absence of the fourth, cutting off the head of a captain or sergeant who may be

A PARTICULAR FRIEND

of the latter. This kind of thing was done once or twice a few years ago; so you see the good Commissioners, while looking to the public weal, take good care to look out for their own little affairs at the same time. Snap judgments are not the rule, fortunately, in the Police Board, just now, and the good officers of the force need have nothing to fear if the Board should take a notion occasionally hereafter by a unanimous vote to put intelligence and energy in certain precincts where stupidity and inertness now reign supreme.

THE HOME GUARDS.

The militia have been pretty well attended to during the past day or two by both houses. To-day the act was passed exempting every man who enlisted or "accepted office" any time from April, 1854, to April, 29, 1865, and who was honorably discharged after serving for seven years, from jury duty, the payment of highway taxes ten days in every year and entitling him to a deduction in the assessment of his real and personal property to the amount of $500 in each year so long as he remains a citizen. This bill was defeated when it was first considered in Committee of the Whole, but through the exertions of Mr. Flagg, of Troy, the vote by which it was killed was reconsidered to-day and it was run through by a vote of 76 to 23. It is said that this

VICTORY FOR THE MILITIA BOYS

was only won after hard work by a large number of the prominent officers of the National Guard, who contended that if the act were not passed there would be disaffection in the ranks. It will be remembered that the law of 1865, or rather the military code of last year, did away with these exemptions for all time to come. The father of the present bill considered it but just that the men who had been led to enlist before 1865, when the promise of the exemptions was a legal attraction to carry a musket in a peaceful way, should be dealt with in good faith. Some well advised people claim that the withdrawal of this attraction for the future has done much to injure the militia of the State, the stern realities of the late war having taken a good deal of the dress parade, soger boy ambition out of the young men upon whom the welfare of the militia depends. The efforts of many influential officers to have the old system continued have proved, however, unavailing. The other militia bill passed is one which a great many of the home guards who air themselves every once in a while in

SHOWY UNIFORMS AND GOLD LACE

and fire off blank cartridges on parade grounds to amuse the general public, who love nothing that smells of actual war, will be highly delighted with. Just think of it! It gives the Governor the authority to issue brevets to the officers somewhat after the fashion of the regular army. The idea is a ridiculous one for the militia, and the Governor should veto it if for no other reason than that it will fill half our cities with colonels and captains that never saw a battle or a skirmish except in a barroom.

Senator Bradley introduced a bill which is intended to materially aid the authorities in

THE COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS

and Croton water rents. It provides for notices to be given in six of the daily papers to persons who have not paid taxes to do so before 1st January of each year; failing, the Receiver can collect twelve per cent; if not paid, to levy upon the goods and chattels of the delinquent wherever found. When taxes are due three years, or Croton rents four years, the Clerk of Arrears may advertise the lands of the defaulter for sale, and if the claim is not satisfied to sell the property for a term of years, and the purchaser shall receive a lease therefor. After the claims of the city have been satisfied the property so sold under lease reverts to the original owner.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr. FREAR introduced an act to regulate assessments in the opening of the streets and avenues in the city of New York.

SECTION 1. In all proceedings for the opening, widening, extending or straightening of streets and avenues or public places in the city of New York the commissioners of assessment to be appointed by the Supreme Court are authorized to impose an assessment on all property to the extent to which they may deem the same to be benefited by such improvement.

SEC. 2. This act shall apply to all proceedings now pending; but if the area of assessment is enlarged or any assessments increased after filing abstracts of assessments and awards in the office of Department of Public Works, as now provided by law, notice thereof shall be given by publication in not less than two daily newspapers published in said city, specifying the extent of such enlarged area of assessment and by filing a map thereof, together with an abstract of all amended assessments, with the said Department of Public Works. During said ten days all owners of property affected thereby may file objections with the Commissioners of Estimate and Assessment in said proceedings for the period of five days after the expiration of the ten days of publication, and be heard before said Commissioners within five days thereafter. The report subsequently made by the Commissioners, if confirmed by the court, shall be fixed and conclusive, in the same manner as such enlarged area of assessment or increased assessment had been originally included in such proceedings.

THE BROADWAY PNEUMATIC TUBE BILL

created quite a breeze in the lower House this evening. Weed, Littlejohn, Hayes and Jacobs made lengthy speeches in opposition to it. Hayes was particularly vehement in his remarks upon the way certain parties were attempting to "choke down" other members who had not had time to read the bill, and who dared to act independently upon the subject. He was greeted with loud applause when he took his seat, but Alvord at once took him to task about his vote in the Twombly-Carey case, and wanted to know if he had not assisted in "choking down" the republicans who had not had time to read the report of the Committee on Elections. This got the laugh on Hayes and resulted in a short discussion, during which for a time the pneumatic humbug was totally lost sight of. Finally Mr. Hitchman called attention to the fact that the bill was imperfect, inasmuch as it came in the shape of an amendment to some act or other which its title did not mention, and he moved to have it referred to the Committee on Railroads to be put into presentable form. This motion was carried, amid great confusion, by a vote of 66 yeas to 48 nays. During the debate on the bill the vestibule and lobbies of the Chamber were crowded with the backers of the scheme, who made themselves shamelessly conspicuous by openly calling from their seats, each in his turn, several members whose aid was desired to push the thing through. What

ARRANGEMENTS

were made between the parties of the first part and the parties of the second part is not definitely known, but it is said that heavy payments in the stock of the company were guaranteed to every member who would do the square thing. A large number of the ruralites were only too glad to swallow the bait and were papered accordingly. After the result of the vote committing the bill to the Railroad Committee had been declared, the lobbyists, half scared out of their wits, skedaddled as though fearful the statue of blind Justice on the Capitol was about to topple over and crush them out of existence. The scare, however, will be smoothed over by to-morrow, when the newly made legislative stockholders will

PASS THE BILL

after its title will have made it readable. It may be interesting to Broadway property owners to know that they are indebted to the chairman of the Railroad Committee for the way the bill was so suddenly sprung upon the House, in the face of the fact that not a solitary argument in favor of the amended bill was made before the committee since it was introduced this session. The Governor will certainly veto it.

All the necessary arrangements had been made to pass

THE NEW TAX LEVY BILL

in the Senate to-night, but the absence of Senator Graham knocked all the arrangements in the head. Seventeen votes are necessary to its passage, and so scouts were sent out in all directions to hunt him up, but he could not be found. Rumors got afloat that he had been "seen," but as the republicans manifest no great opposition to the scheme, and the Senator is not in the market, they could have had no foundation. In truth his absence was to be regretted, inasmuch as Senator Morgan had made it a point to be on hand, though his son lay dead at home when he left in answer to a summons to be on hand. It is believed that the bill will pass in the Senate to-morrow and reach a third reading in the lower House, and probably pass even there if a two-thirds democratic vote can be kept in the Chamber long enough.

The Rapid Transit Question—Mr. Horace H. Day's Argument.

ALBANY, March 16, 1871.

Horace H. Day, of New York, made an interesting argument to-day before the Assembly Committee on Railroads on the subject of quick transit through the city of New York. He opposed both the plans and route of the Viaduct Railroad, and favored instead the Rand plan for an elevated road, and Broadway as the proper route. "Ultimately," he said, "New York must have three great lines of road—one along the ridge of the island—that is, along the line of Broadway—and one along the docks on each side. All these roads could not be built at once, but it was most important that the first one built, a central road, should be properly located in reference to the others, because if it were not the mistake would preclude the constructing of the side roads for at least twelve or fifteen years, and within that time the competitors of New York on the south, east and north—Charleston, Philadelphia, Boston and Montreal—would, by their greater facilities for cheap handling of freight, draw off the commerce of New York and destroy forever her commercial preeminence."

THE SOUTH CAROLINA TROUBLES.

The Excitement in York and Chester Counties Subsiding—Twelve Negroes Killed at the Baton Rouge Fight—Disarming the Negro Militia—Driving Out Obnoxious Colored Citizens.

CHESTER, S. C., March 16, 1871.

The excitement in both this and York county has almost entirely subsided, and with the presence of United States troops all fears of fresh collisions between the negro militia and the citizens have vanished. The county of York is less disturbed than Chester. The only outrages that occurred there were the raid on the Treasurer's office, the shooting of a negro commissioner and the destruction of the State arms at Rock Hill depot, and these were all the work of a band of mounted men, supposed to have come from the counties of Union and Lawrence, and perhaps some from North Carolina.

When the fight occurred at Baton Rouge township, in this county, the negroes were driven by the mounted whites, supposed to be also from Union county, where twenty-one only of the original seventy-five negroes arrived. They were promptly disarmed by the Sheriff of York and lodged in jail for their own personal safety. They were released next day and received the protection of the United States troops until they again left for Chester.

Semi-official investigations made by Captains B. Beckler and McLaughlin, commanding here, go to show that nine negroes were killed in the battle of Baton Rouge township. Three are missing, and believed to be lost or bushwhacked in the pursuit from that point to Yorkville, and four are known to be wounded. It is not known what the casualties are among the whites, as they left the county carrying with them any killed or wounded they may have had. Only two wounded whites have been heard from.

The disarming of the negro militia under the supervision of Captain Kennedy, an aid of the Governor proceeds quietly. Three companies have been disarmed already—one at Rossville, one at Rich Hill and the Mount Carmel company. United States troops were instructed to guard the arms in their transit here from the various points. The whole number of arms turned in to the present time is about three hundred.

It will require an official and searching investigation to settle the origin of the disorders, but it is generally conceded that they resulted from outrages induced by an improper use of the State arms in the hands of the negroes, which kept the community in a constant state of terror and excitement.

Two cavalry companies just relieved from duty on the plains will arrive here in a few days. Arrangements have been made to enable all obnoxious colored militia men to dispose of their property in safety, which, when done, they will leave here for other and less dangerous localities.

THE HOBOKEN TURTLE CLUB.

The belief is current in England that no person can be fitted for the high office of Lord Mayor of London without first having acquired a cultivated taste for turtle steaks and turtle soup. For a like reason or as a test of good fellowship a hundred gentlemen, principally members of the Hoboken Turtle Club—the oldest social organization in New York city—with their guests, sat down in the Sinclair House, corner of Eighth street and Broadway, to a "winter dinner" of four courses, consisting of a luscious green turtle soup, with hard-boiled eggs chopped up as *piquante* flavor; turtle steaks, with onions, and highly spiced; lobster salad and a magnificent chowder, composed of oysters, chicken and pork—a dish that might have satisfied Cæsar after having his appetite whetted by the games of the Circus. The president of the club, Mr. James L. Miller, who is as ruddy and frolicsome at sixty as if he were only twenty years of age, occupied the chair, and kept the table in a roar the entire evening by his old-time reminiscences and jokes, while his old compatriot, Wilson Small, sat at the foot of the table and bore the brunt and heat of the conflict. Champagne was used to keep the pot boiling in plentiful streams, and all who were present made the most of the hours allotted them. Among others present were Colonel John Green, the Vice President of the Turtles; Superintendent James Donohue, of the Free Labor Bureau; Edwin D. Basford, of the melodious voice; William Radford, of Central Park fame; Deputy Sheriff Thomas Dunn, Thomas Shakspeare Ryan, Police Captain Hedden, George S. Miller, ex-Engineer William Lamb, James Moran, J. C. Berrian, John Levy, the eminent pawnbroker; Mr. Ransom, the president of the heavy weights; D. Davids, William Davis, the "Bard of Erin;" Thomas Cassidy, Dr. Finnell, Mr. Cobleigh, Frederich Ridnboch, the twins, Ashmore and Morton, who did all in their power for their guests; Henry Seaman, S. C. Mott, Edward Lane, Colonel Engleson, L. M. Black, George H. Thomas, Lemuel Valentine, William Van Tassell, Charles Gowdy, Alderman Charlick, Lemuel Reed, William Widants, Messrs. Yallabee and Hewlett and Gilso, John C. Giles and a number of other old New York citizens. President James L. Miller gave a history of the habits of the snapping turtle and of the club, which he stated had been in existence with interruptions for seventy-five years, and nearly every person present was called upon for a speech or a song during the evening.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.

No Choice for Governor by the People—Both Branches of the Legislature Democratic.

CONCORD, March 16, 1871.

Returns from 218 towns give Pike (rep.) 33,339 votes, Weston (dem.) 33,881, and Cooper and scattering 1,074. The scattering vote, which runs up to between 1,100 and 1,200, defeats Weston by 100 or 200 votes.

THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION.

Hibbard has 400 majority in the First Congressional district; Bell probably 700 or 800 majority in the Second district. In Parker's (Third) district, estimating a few small towns by last year's vote, the democratic plurality is 197. Parker runs up well with his ticket, and without doubt is elected.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Senate now looks as if democrats were chosen in the Fourth, Sixth, Eighth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelth districts, and republicans in the Second, Third, Seventh and Ninth. There is no choice in the First and Fifth. The House is probably democratic by from five to ten majority, counting three or four labor reformers with the democrats. As far as heard from it stands 164 democrats, 162 republicans and four labor reform, with three democratic towns to hear from.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Executive Council stands two and two with a vacancy in the First district. Probably all the democratic Congressmen are elected.

Later—The Republicans Claim the House.

CONCORD, March 16, 1871.

The republicans claim eight majority in the House,

Democratic Rejoicings in New Jersey.

TRENTON, March 16, 1871.

The democratic Senators and Assemblymen are celebrating the victory in New Hampshire by a banquet to-night, at the United States Hotel, under the presidency of Joel Parker.

THE JOINT HIGH COMMISSION.

The Deliberations at the State Department—More Festivities and Social Gatherings.

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1871.

The Joint High Commission remained in session to-day several hours, deliberating upon the questions under consideration. At the conclusion of the sessions each day the English members return to their residence, and, after partaking of a lunch, devote a couple of hours to walking about town. The American Commissioners, with the exception of Justice Nelson, walk home from the State Department every afternoon.

The round of social festivities continues with all the freshness of their first introduction to American society in Washington. The prominent citizens of this city are numbered among their friends, and the Earl de Grey evinces a desire to bring all within the circle of his acquaintance. This evening he gave a dinner party, which was attended by Sir Stafford Northcote, Professor Montague Bernard, Lord Tenterden, Earl de Grey, his son, Viscount Goderich, H. S. Northcote, D. Cremer, Postmaster General Creswell, Senators Frelinghuysen, Morton, Pomeroy, Casserly and Davis, the Danish and Belgian Ministers and General Babcock.

Minister Thornton also gave a reception this evening at his residence, on I street, in honor of the British Commissioners, which was attended by a distinguished party of invited guests.

The English Mind Gratified, Yet Doubtful.

LONDON, March 16, 1871.

The subject of the Joint High Commission—its powers, duties and probable results—engages a large share of public attention through the press.

The London *Times*, in an editorial on the matter of the labors of the High Commission in Washington, anticipates "an easy settlement of the fisheries question," but is not sanguine as to "an arrangement in the case of the Alabama claims." The *Times* expresses "regret at the limited powers held by the Commission."

NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE.

Passage of the Jersey City and Paterson Charters—The Republican Majority Becoming Desperate—Debate on the Registry Bill.

After the defeat of the Bunsted charter for Jersey City on Wednesday in the House a republican caucus was held at the urgent entreaty of Messrs Hornblower and his colleagues, who constitute the Bunsted brass band. The caucus was opened with a jeremiad on

NEW HAMPSHIRE,

and the Bunsted delegation warned the assemblage that a similar fate awaited New Jersey if the proposed charter was not passed. Hemingway interrupted and reminded the caucus that the defeat of his pet charter for Paterson was a far more serious matter than the one-man power proposed for Jersey City. Barton was fidgety as usual and nervously urged immediate action. Mr. Taylor, of Newark, was in favor of pushing through all political bills in order to

STRENGTHEN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Hereupon Speaker Condit and two other members made the extraordinary statement that the Bunsted charter was demanded by the republican party of Jersey City, but a grave nod from Sanxay intimated that the fact was just the reverse. The republicans of Jersey City had repeatedly in public meetings repudiated this charter, and its passage with Bunsted's name at its head will entail

INEVITABLE DISASTER

on the republican party in Hudson county. It is a charter not to serve the people, but to help Bunsted and the Nicolson pavement and contractors' "ringa." Hudson county has a large democratic majority, and the thousands of democrats who voted the republican ticket as a rebuke to democratic corruption and in the hope of just legislation will now be

GRIEVOUSLY DISAPPOINTED.

They will never again trust a party which foists upon them a man whom the Supreme Court decided a few days ago to have been guilty of violating the law and his official oath. Farewell republicanism in Hudson county.

But the country republicans could not perceive the iniquity of the bill, and so, as a party necessity, they had to fall into line. Hornblower and his three republican colleagues had threatened to "bolt" every political bill unless Bunsted came out all right. So the Jersey City charter was made a party measure, and as such it was brought up in the House yesterday on its final passage, a vote of record, roll-call having been carried the previous day. Patterson,

TRUE TO THE LAST,

delivered a final argument, which amounted to nothing more than a pathetic protest under the circumstances. He desired that the bill be read, though he was overruled, and Barton moved the previous question, so as to silence opposition. The vote was taken and the Bunsted charter was passed by 33 to 26, Hemingway, republican, voting against it, and Valentien, democrat, for it. Sanxay, who all along opposed the charter, wheeled into line with the majority, under the pressure of an urgent letter from the president of a bank in Jersey City. Kinley, another republican, opposed the bill to the last till he saw that it would be carried in spite of him, while Bradshaw at the

FIRST CRACK OF THE WHIP

fell into line also and abandoned his opposition.

The bill now goes to the Senate, and even yet it may be rendered comparatively harmless by an amendment striking out the name of Bunsted. Senator Bettle, the President, who is likely to be the coming man for Governor, will cut the plank from under his feet by turning against him the people of Hudson county, with whom he is now popular, and he intends to urge some amendments.

THE PATERSON CHARTER

passed the Senate by a strict party vote.

There was a long debate in the Senate on

THE REGISTRY BILL,

which came up on its second reading. Mr. Little delivered a lengthy argument against and Mr. J. W. Taylor spoke in favor of it. No action was taken on the bill when the Senate adjourned.

A CHEMICAL CAUSERIE.

Lecture by Professor Doremus on the Theological and Scientific Aspects of Creation.

That scientific truths when demonstrated clearly and eloquently, as they are ever by Dr. Doremus, are attractive to the many was shown by the large audience of that gentleman last evening at the Tabernacle, in Schermerhorn street, Brooklyn. The lecture was the second of the course designed to prove the perfect "Agreement between the Mosaic and Scientific Accounts of the History of Creation," and its special subject, the evolution of the imponderable forces, light and heat, by the combination of certain elements. The Doctor, in beginning, said it was formerly believed that there were but seven metals. This belief was the result of an idea of analogy between all works of the Supreme Being; so as there were seven planets, seven days in the week and seven openings in the head, it naturally followed that there were but seven metals; but by means of our present facilities for analysis the belief was proven fallacious. The Earth is a composition of oxydized metals—that is, metals that have undergone that process of combustion that is now going on in the planets, and have been deprived of oxygen. The presence of those metals in a state of combustion in the planets has been determined by the spectroscope. The distinctive hues of the burning metals have been separated from the ray of light and cast upon the spectrum. There are certain dark lines upon the spectrum whose explanation for some time baffled the efforts of all investigators, but it was finally discovered that the light of metals in combustion struggling through their thin vapors became blurred and lost color. Upon this fact was based the supposition that those lines were the product of light rays, blurred by passage through the vapors of the metals whose combustion afforded those rays.

The Doctor then spoke at length upon the many powers of that great element oxygen, and illustrated these by many beautiful experiments. By the combination of this element with others he evolved different powers of heat and light. By the use of this element in the preparation of our street gas we should have greater brilliancy of light at greatly reduced prices, and by its respiration, in its purity, the power of preserving health would be greatly enhanced.

In conclusion, he said all that had been demonstrated was to the effect that certain elements in combination evolved the imponderable forces, light and heat, and in manner completely in accord with Scriptural account. The lecturer did not believe in the instantaneous generation of perfect light, but in its gradual approach to its present perfection.

THE COAL QUESTION.

The Investigation Before the Pennsylvania Legislative Committee—Farcical Character of the Proceedings—The Miners' Coal Bill—The Proposed Strike in the Bituminous Coal Region.

HARRISBURG, March 16, 1871.

The battle of the giants has begun in dead earnest. Last evening began the second session of the Judiciary Whitewashing Legislative investigating Committee. Gowen, Packer, Sloan, Brisbin, Sayre and other railroad magnates put in an appearance about six o'clock, followed by Healey, President of the Miners' Union; Siney, President of the Schuylkill district, and Watters and many other lesser lights in the capacity of delegates.

The principal business transacted last evening was the examination of Gowen, Packer and the others to prove how far they had exceeded the limits of their charters, and entailed consequent distress, not for the miners particularly, but on the coal consumer everywhere. Factories, steamship lines, railroads and private families have, the country through, been made to suffer through the unwarranted and unprecedented action of these gigantic monopolies. It is plain to the most superficial observer that the investigation is a farce; it will probably be continued for three, possibly six, weeks, yet the end has already been determined upon; it is merely a question of immediate or future benefits to the committee which way they end the proceedings. These who are posted will tell you that the railroad men have "fixed" the committee, and the investigation is just as sure to result in the discomfiture of the miners as if it was written on the walls.

THE COAL BILL

now being legislated through the House by the miners is their only consolation; that it will pass the House is generally conceded; that the Senate will kill it so dead it will never see daylight again is also positively decided. What the miners, in the face of all these obstacles propose to do, what they have to look to in the future it is difficult to determine.

THE TRUTH OF THE HERALD'S REPORTS

has been vindicated in this investigation. It will be remembered that a HERALD reporter recently visited Mount Carmel, and sent from that place a letter in regard to the recent outrages that culminated in the death of a miner. The reporter took occasion to say, on good authority, that the "Molly Maguires" and "Buckshots" were not members of the W. B. A., but were self-constituted avengers of what they considered the wrongs inflicted upon the organization. A certain journal, in in the interest of the operators, devoted half a column of editorial denunciation on the reporter, terming him a "falsifier of the truth" and other pet names too flattering to refer to at this time. In the course of Franklin B. Gowen's speech a few evenings since he stated positively that, to the best of his knowledge, the "Molly Maguires" and "Buckshots" were not members of the W. B. A., and A. G. Brodhead, a State Senator, and superintendent of a branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, told your reporter the same thing this morning. When such men acknowledge that the W. B. A. do not countenance the outlaws styling themselves the "Mollys" and "Buckshots" it is well to believe it.

There is some anxiety manifested by railroad men concerning the proposed action of the bituminous miners. Delegates from the anthracite region will meet the bituminous men at Johnstown to-morrow, and the question will then be definitely settled whether the bituminous men will also lay down their tools, quit the mines and work hereafter in harmony with their brothers of the anthracite region. Siney informed me last night that, while they appreciated the kindness and sympathy that dictated the proposed suspension of bituminous miners, they would do all in their power to dissuade them from adopting such a course. "Public opinion," said he, "is with us; should we give our consent to a suspension in the bituminous region public opinion would change; instead of martyrs we would be characterized as tyrants." All of which leads me to think that Siney has within him the elements of a leader, a man who knows when the iron is hot, and strikes always at the right time.

Investigation Before the Legislative Committee—Good Influences of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association—Money Power of the Railroads Overcoming Legislative Honesty.

HARRISBURG, March 16, 1871.

The Judiciary Committee resumed their investigation in the Senate Chamber this evening. The greater part of the night was spent in arguing the question of receiving the evidence of the coal operators, which by some delicate manipulation on the part of Gowen was finally admitted. Kendrick, President of the Anthracite Board of Trade, was betrayed into admitting that the W. B. A. had accomplished a great moral work in controlling the evil spirits among the miners, which was received by the miners as a very important admission and a point gained for their side of the question. Kendrick also admitted that the wages of miners averaged from seven to eleven dollars per week.

The *Anthracite Monitor*, the miners' organ, was offered in evidence, but was bitterly opposed by Hall, counsel for the miners. The committee overruled his objections just as fast as he rise to state them. The railroad men have the game in their own hands, and from present appearances are likely to retain their influence with the committee. Gowen, who was summoned merely as a witness, assumes alternately the character of plaintiff, counsel and defendant with perfect impunity, instead of trying the mala question at issue, whether the railroads have or have not violated their charters. The committee are suffering their time to be occupied with the discussion of mere technical questions and side issues.

A leading officer in the Miners' Union, in referring to the investigation to-night, said, "The only thing that operates against us here is what has and always will operate against a poor man—viz., lack of funds to place him on a footing with his wealthy opponents, and this is just what is operating to defeat the miners. The railroads have too much money for them.

The investigation is considered by disinterested parties one of the most barefaced frauds that has even characterized the Pennsylvania Legislature.

THE NATIONAL GAME.

Meeting of Amateur Base Ball Players.

A meeting of amateur base ball players was held last evening at the rooms of the Excelsior Club, Brooklyn, for the purpose of organizing an association of amateur ball players. Mr. J. W. Davis of the Knickerbocker Club was elected chairman. There were a great many clubs represented, some of them sending as many as three delegates. This, unfortunately, occasioned a vast deal of trouble, as some were in favor of each club having three votes, while others, again, thought one vote each was sufficient. This point was finally, after a great deal of "chinning," decided in favor of the "one man power." A committee of five having been appointed to draft a constitution and bylaws and to select a suitable name for the association, reported in favor of adopting the constitution and bylaws of 1866, with a few slight alterations, and calling the organization the "National Association of Amateur Base Ball Players." This report was received and adopted by the assemblage after a few minutes' discussion upon the subject. An election of officers was next entered into and resulted as follows:—President, A. McClure Bush, of the Harvard Club; first vice president, Mr. H. Jewell, of the Excelsior Club; second vice president, G. H. Albro, of the Fleetwood Club, of Vermont; secretary, J. M. Uhthowf, of the Pastime Club, of Baltimore; treasurer, A. Racher, of the Olympic Club, of Philadelphia. Upon motion, the association unanimously adopted for the government of the game the rules adopted by the National Base Ball Association in November of last year.

FIRE IN BROOKLYN.

Three frame buildings, Nos. 113, 115 and 117 Navy street, were nearly destroyed by fire at six o'clock last night. The fire originated in the roof of 113, and was caused from some defect in the chimney. This and the adjoining building, No. 115, were owned by Owen Coyle, who estimates his loss at about $1,800. Mr. Larkin, who occupied the upper part of No. 113, lost $200 on furniture. Martin O'Brine, another tenant, lost $150 on furniture. No. 117 Navy street was owned by Mrs. Fallon, who sustains a loss of $5,000, said to be insured. Mrs. Sullivan, who occupied the upper portion of the house, lost $250 on furniture. Mr. Coyle is insured in the Home and Montauk Insurance Companies.

SHIPPING NEWS.

Almanac for New York—This Day.

Sun rises	6 09	Moon rises. morn	4 35
Sun sets	6 09	High water...eve	6 02

OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATE OF DEPARTURES FROM NEW YORK FOR THE MONTHS OF MARCH AND APRIL.

Steamer.	Sails	Destination.	Office.
City of Brussels.	Mar 18	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
Europa	Mar 18	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
City of Dublin.	Mar 21	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
Idaho	Mar 23	Liverpool	29 Broadway.
St. Laurent	Mar 25	Havre	58 Broadway.
India	Mar 25	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
City of London.	Mar 25	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
City of Wash'n	April 1	Liverpool	15 Broadway.
Caledonia	April 1	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Australia	April 8	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green

PORT OF NEW YORK, MARCH 16, 1871.

CLEARED.

Steamship Aleppo (Br), Moreland, Liverpool—C G Francklyn.

Steamship Missouri, Edwards, Havana—Atlantic Mail Steamship Co.

Steamship H Livingston, Cheeseman, Savannah—Livingston, Fox & Co.

Steamship Georgia, Crowell, Charleston—H R Morgan & Co.

Steamship Niagara, Couch, Norfolk, City Point and Richmond—Old Dominion Steamship Co.

Steamship Chesapeake, Johnson, Portland—J F Ames.

Steamship Neptune, Baker, Boston—H F Dimock.

Bark Ynez, Lindsley, Maracaibo via St Kitts and Curacoa—Perez & Obario.

Bark Jason (NG), Bartels, Wilmington, NC—Punch, Edye & Co.

Bark Clara M Goodrich, Cook, Portland—Miller & Houghton.

Brig Gem, Neal, Barbados—D Trowbridge & Co.

Brig Lizzie Troop (Br), Newell, Barbados—J W Elwell & Co.

Brig Camille (Br), Strouk, Havana—James B Phillips & Sons.

Brig W W Lord (Br), Babin, Halifax, NS—C B Swain & Son.

Schr Mary Burdett, Pease, Para—Burdett & Pond.

Schr Setagawa, Bryant, Baracoa—B J Weuberg.

Schr Eugene Borda, Dukes, Corpus Christi—Tupper & Beattie.

Schr My Rover, Brown, Charleston—Evans, Ball & Co.

Schr Annie Borland, Voorhis, Richmond—Van Brunt & Slaght.

Schr E M Baxter, Waterman, Washington, DC—Baker & Dayton.

Schr Helen, Perry, Baltimore—Wm Chalmers.

Schr C B Manning, Knowles, Gloucester—R J Godwin & Son.

Schr M H Reed, Benson, New Bedford—Ferguson & Wood.

Steamer D C Uley, Davis, Philadelphia.

Steamer Mayflower, Fritts, Philadelphia.

Steamer Vulcan, Wilcox, Philadelphia.

Steamer M Massey, Smith, Philadelphia.

ARRIVALS.

REPORTED BY THE HERALD STEAM YACHTS.

Steamship Idaho (Br), Price, Liverpool March 2 and Queenstown 3d, with mdse and 222 passengers, to Williams & Guion. Had strong westerly gales east of the Banks; since fine weather. 11th inst, lat 44 30, lon 48 20, passed a North German steamer, bound east; 15th, steamships Britannia, hence for Glasgow, and Fenella, hence for London.

Steamship City of Port au Prince, Jackson, Port au Prince March 7 via Genaives 9th, with mdse and passengers, to R Murray, Jr. Was detained 10 hours outside of Sandy Hook by fog.

Steamship Clyde, Kennedy, Galveston March 6 via Key West 10th, with mdse and passengers, to C H Mallory & Co. (Arrived 15th).

Steamship Fanita, Doane, Wilmington, NC, with mdse, to the Lorillard Steamship Co.

Bark Monkchester (Br), Barker, Manila Nov 19, with sugar and hemp to Fabbri & Chauncey—vessel to master. Passed Anjier Dec 4; was off the Cape of Good Hope 4 days, with heavy W gales; rounded the Cape Jan 18, and crossed the Equator Feb 19 in lon 36 30; had fine weather in the Atlantic; was 9 days west of Bermuda.

Brig Clara Pickens (of Providence), Rogers, Messina 75 days, with fruit to J E Devlin & Co—vessel to Evans, Ball & Co. Passed Gibraltar Feb 1; had strong westerly gales, with heavy cross sea, in the Mediterranean; fine weather in the Atlantic.

Brig Michelina (Ital), Cacace, Marseilles 55 days, with mdse, to Jas Robinson & Co. Passed Gibraltar Feb 2; had some very rough weather.

Schr Z L Adams, Horton, Galveston 15 days, with cotton, &c, to C H Mallory & Co.

Schr Hattie Baker, Baker, Galveston 18 days, with cotton, hides, &c, to C H Mallory & Co—vessel to S C Loud & Co.

Schr W G Dearborn, Scull, Baltimore, with coal, to Overton & Hawkins.

Schr Almira, Woolsey, Baltimore.

Schr Katie J Hoyt, Parker, Baltimore for New Haven.

Schr John Stockham, Price, Baltimore for Bristol.

Passed Through Hell Gate.

BOUND SOUTH.

Schr Chas E Norton, Hubbie, Portland for New York.

Schr Corvo, Pickering, Rockland for Richmond.

Schr Annie E Stephens, Montgomery, Boston for New York.

Schr Anna Barton, Fink, Boston for Philadelphia.

Schr Vashti, Sherp, Boston for Philadelphia.

Schr Wm A Crocker, Baxter, Boston for Philadelphia.

Schr Nellie Brown, Brown, Boston for Virginia.

Schr J P Horton, Pierce, Wellfleet for New York, with fish to master.

Schr Annie Merrick, Richards, Provincetown for Philadelphia.

Schr Artist, Parker, New Bedford for New York.

Schr Isabel Alberto, Tucker, Providence for New York.

Schr Manantico, Claypole, Providence for Philadelphia.

Schr Emma B Shaw, Shaw, Providence for Georgetown, DC.

Schr D G Floyd, Griffith, Newport for New York.

Schr H N Newton, Dillon, Norwich for Albany.

Schr Thos Fitch, Fitch, New London for Virginia.

Schr Julia A Jayne, Jayne, New Haven for New York.

Schr M P King, Smith, New Haven for New Brunswick.

Schr M W Grifling, Grifling, New Haven for Virginia.

Schr Escort, Matthews, Bridgeport for New York.

Schr Black Diamond, Goldhern, Bridgeport for New York.

Schr Martha Lavina, Stewart, Bridgeport for New York.

Schr Willow Harp, Davis, Bridgeport for New York.

Schr Anna Brown, Lowell, Stamford for New York.

Schr Martha Mason, Dayton, Port Jefferson for New York.

Schr J E Willets, Mills, Port Jefferson for New York.

Schr Wm H Peck, Rhodes, Cold Spring for New York.

Schr Sarah, Wran, Cold Spring for New York.

Schr Excelsior, Murphy, Cold Spring for New York.

Schr Margaretta, Wandser, Cold Spring for Albany.

Schr Ellen Muir, Ward, Northport for New York.

Schr M Hand, Norton, Orient for New York.

Schr Felice Crowell, Howe, Pigeon Cove for New York.

BOUND EAST.

Steamship Chesapeake, Johnson, New York for Portland.

Steamship Neptune, Baker, New York for Boston.

Schr Eliza T Smith, Decker, New York for Providence.

Schr Kate Church, Shaw, New York for New