WASHINGTON.

The President Preparing for His Flight to the Seashore.

Ben Butler Revenging Himself on an Enemy.

Haytien Explanation of the St. Domingo Difficulties.

Success of the Tehuantepec Surveying Expedition.

WASHINGTON, May 2, 1871.

Afternoon Reception at the White House.

Mrs. Grant held a reception this afternoon. She was assisted in receiving by Mrs. General Chipman and Miss Nellie Grant. The rooms were not crowded, but the visitors who attended enjoyed the opportunity of meeting their friends which the occasion afforded. Mrs. Grant will hold only a few more of these afternoon receptions, as the President intends taking his family to Long Branch sometime during the present month.

Cabinet Meeting.

There was a Cabinet meeting to-day for the first time in several weeks. Every department was represented excepting the War Department. It is understood that routine business only was transacted.

The Legal Tender Decision.

The decision of the Supreme Court yesterday, affirming the validity of contracts for payment of specific weights of gold in coined money was based upon a case appealed from the Supreme Court of Michigan, which presented an instance of singular provision and caution. The action in the court below was brought to recover rent upon a lease executed in 1828 for the term of 100 years, on which the yearly rent reserved was four ounces, two pennyweights and twelve grains of pure gold in coined money, payable quarterly. The State Court, instead of giving judgment for the rent and interest in coined money, gave judgment for the market value in United States notes of the coined money, but the Supreme Court reversed this judgment and held that payment must be made in coined gold money.

Boundary Between Hayti and St. Domingo.

The Haytien Minister has been authorized by his government to state that Hayti does not desire to conquer and control the Dominican republic, but that its only object is to establish the boundary line between Hayti and Dominica. It would be pleased if the boundary line could be guaranteed by the government of the United States. The Haytien Minister here has had the report of the St. Domingo Commissioners translated into the French language, with a view of distributing it in that form in Hayti and in Europe.

Ben Butler's Success as a Divorce Lawyer.

Some time ago Mrs. Pomeroy, wife of the somewhat famous "Brick" Pomeroy, applied to Ben Butler to act as her counsel in securing a divorce from her husband. Butler, of course, consented. As soon as Brick came to know that Butler had been employed in the case he directed his lawyer to compromise the case by offering to pay Mrs. Pomeroy $20,000 and $600 a year. Upon being informed of this Butler addressed the following letter to a gentleman in New York, employed as associate counsel for Mrs. Pomeroy:—

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 15, 1871, informing me of your connection with the case of M. M. Pomeroy and his wife, applicant for divorce. Mrs. Pomeroy applied to me, in a very ladylike and proper note, stating that she desired to engage my services as counsel, and I saw no objection to taking a retainer in the case. I did not inform her that I should do it gratuitously, but I undoubtedly should have done so except that I could have compelled Pomeroy to pay my fee. I am glad to be informed that the fact of my employment having become known to her husband, he has concluded to make a settlement with her, giving her $20,000 in cash as you inform me, and paying $600 a year toward the education of their child. It is, certainly, very agreeable to know that I have been able to make the man disgorge the money he has made out of me in favor of a woman whom he has injured and abused, and who, I am informed, is an estimable lady. By abuse of me and pandering to the worst passions and credulities of his readers he has been able to so sell his paper as to make a living for himself and even a competence, as I understand. Now, in justice, he should pay me a portion of that, and if my employment by his wife as her counsel has caused him to take a part of that which belongs to me and provide for her sustenance I shall have the satisfaction of knowing that, while he has injured and abused me, I am in fact supporting his family. I have done some charitable acts in my life of which I have no disposition to boast, but none upon which I more pride myself than of being the benefactor and supporter of the family of "Brick" Pomeroy. I may never need to use the information which you give me, but if I do you may be sure that I never bring my informants into trouble. I do not mark this letter either private or confidential. I am, very respectfully, yours, B. F. BUTLER.

To ——, Esq.

The Philadelphia Centennial Anniversary.

The President has appointed the following as commissioners under the fourth section of the act of March 3d to provide for celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of American independence in the city of Philadelphia:—Asa Packer and Daniel J. Morrell, of Pennsylvania; D. M. Boyd, Jr., and John L. Campbell, of Indiana; Solomon L. Spink and G. A. Batchelder, of Dakota; J. T. Bernard and J. S. Adams, of Florida; E. D. Holton and David Atwood, of Wisconsin. The act provides for the appointment of two gentlemen from each State and Territory, to be made upon the recommendation of the Governor thereof to the President. The above comprise all the nominations that have been received by the President up to the present time.

Personal.

John D. Barclay, Journal clerk of the House of Representatives, is very ill at his residence in this city.

General Crook has, by special order of the President, been assigned to the command of the Department of Arizona, in the place of General Stoneman.

The reported defalcation of George D. Orner, late Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fifth Missouri district, which has been telegraphed from St. Louis, is not credited at the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Colonel Bristow, Solicitor General, left here this evening, with his family, for his home in Louisville, Ky., and will be absent two weeks.

General B. F. Butler left here this evening for his home in Lowell, Mass.

The National Telegraph Memorial Association

is now fully organized. Subscription books have been opened, and the prospects of success are encouraging. One design is to commemorate the introduction and application of the magnetic telegraph as a triumph of American genius and invention. The principle feature of the monument to be located at Washington is a colossal statue of Professor Morse by Horatio Stone.

The Connecticut War Claims Paid.

A warrant was issued from the Treasury Department to-day in favor of the State of Connecticut for $133,195 96, to reimburse that State for money expended in equipping and forwarding volunteers to suppress the rebellion.

The Tehuantepec Surveying Expedition.

Captain Shufeldt, commanding the Tehuantepec surveying expedition, will sail, according to advices received at the Navy Department, from Minatitlan to-morrow, and is expected here about the 25th instant in the Mayflower. The expedition is regarded here as a complete success.

Sinking of a Steamship.

The steamship Hercules, with 1,000 tons of coal, sunk at her wharf in Georgetown this afternoon, at five o'clock. Loss $10,000.

THE CONNECTICUT LEGISLATURE.

Caucus Nominations for Officers of Both Houses—Investigation Into the Election Troubles Opposed by the Democracy.

HARTFORD, May 2, 1871.

The republican members of the Senate to-night nominated Hon. Ezra Hall, of Marlborough, as President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and Edward B. Bennett, of Hartford, Clerk.

The House republican caucus nominated Edwin H. Bugbee, of Killingly, for Speaker, and B. A. Hough, of Danbury, and George H. Cowell, of Waterbury, for Clerks.

The democrats have nominated E. W. Seymour, of Litchfield, for Speaker, and Reuben B. Belden and Mr. Driscoll, of New Haven, for Clerks. The democratic caucus was secret; that of the republicans was held publicly in the Representatives' Hall.

It is understood that the democrats will strongly oppose an investigation, by the Committee on the Canvass of Votes, of the matters in dispute concerning the count of the votes in New Haven and Enfield, where the presiding officers have sent statements that there were undoubted errors in the counts. The Legislative Committee will have power to make a thorough investigation in order to decide who has actually received a majority of the votes cast for Governor. It is pretty certain, from what has been learned of the action of the democrats, that they will oppose an investigation in every possible way when the Legislature acts upon the matter.

To-morrow there will be no public parade. To-morrow the republican nominees for Legislative offices will be elected.

OUTRAGES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Three Men Murder a Negro, His Wife and Four Children in Their Own Home.

The House Burned to Conceal the Crime—A Mother's Devotion—The Woman Alarms the Neighbors and Secures the Arrest of the Murderers.

RALEIGH, N. C., May 2, 1871.

The *Sentinel* of to-day has a correspondence from Rutherford Court House, which gives the details of one of

THE MOST HORRIBLE OUTRAGES

that has ever shocked human ears. The perpetrators of the deed are radicals, though it partakes of the nature of Ku Klux outrages. Six souls were, without a word of warning, ushered into eternity, and their slaughtered bodies afterwards consumed in the flames of their burning home. The outrage occurred in Morgan township, on the border of McDowell county, and is as follows:—

Silas Weston, a free negro before the war, has for many years been living with Polly Steadman, a white woman of loose character. Polly has or had four children, white, the eldest about fourteen, the youngest nearly two years of age.

SILAS AND POLLY

lived peaceably together, and were in better circumstances than most of their class. Some time ago three notorious characters—Govan and Columbus Adair and M. Bernard—were charged with the theft of a quantity of brandy and bound over at McDowell County Court. Silas had seen the thieves carrying off the booty, and was subpœned as the principal witness for the prosecution. The Adairs threatened his life if he peached, but Silas expressed a determination to bring the rogues to justice. What we now proceed to state is

THE SWORN DEPOSITION

of the woman, Polly Steadman:—On Wednesday evening, April 26, shortly after nightfall, while the family were preparing to retire to peaceful repose, the dog began to bark violently. Polly, looking through the chinks between the logs, received a pistol bullet in the eye. With a wild scream she sprang back, and at that instant the door was broken down and in rushed Govan Adair, Columbus Adair and Bernard,

FIRING AS THEY CAME.

Silas fell dead, with two balls in the head. One of the assassins stood over the children as they lay upon the floor, shooting them through the head like so many pigs. Polly stooped to creep under the bed, but was flung back. Then she began to fight like a tigress. One of the butchers attacked her with a knife. Finally, with five deep cuts on the body, with her throat deeply gashed and a pistol shot through the eye, this poor creature sank to the floor and was kicked into a pile of broom straw preparatory to

THE GRAND AUTO DA FÉ.

Meanwhile every voice in the family had been stilled. Six lifeless bodies lay on the bloody floor—the old man on the hearth, the mother haggled in pieces on the straw, and the children in their night clothes, lying where they fell—all had been jostled by rude feet. The fiends contemplated their work, to make sure it had been done thoroughly, and prepared to hide their tracks. Piling up clothing, straw and other combustible matter they applied the match, and then, with an ineffaceable stain on their souls, fled away into the darkness.

A MOTHER'S DEVOTION.

And now occurred what may well sound marvellous. Polly Steadman, scorched by the flames, arouses herself, seizes her youngest child, who gives signs of life, and, crawling towards the door, tries to drag out another child, but nature fails, and the body lies just outside the threshold; then, with supernatural strength, Polly staggers the distance of half a mile to the residence of Mrs. Williams, and gives

THE ALARM.

It is too late. Three bleached skeletons grin from the ashes, and a blistered corpse lay without the door. As soon as possible messengers were despatched for Sheriff Walker and for medical assistance; but before either arrived Polly, supposing herself in the last agony of death, solemnly testified against the murderers. She knew them well; they were her near neighbors, and were not disguised. Her testimony was so clear and positive it carried conviction to all who heard it. Accordingly Squire Hanes promptly issued a warrant for

THE ARREST

of the suspected parties. They were found at home, one of them in bed, though late in the day. Sheriff Walker arrived shortly afterward and conveyed the prisoners to this place, where they are closely confined. Commenting on this horrible affair, it is proper to state with emphasis that all the parties are of the lowest order of society, and that all of them, the slain and the slayers, are radicals of the deepest dye. The Adairs for years have attended the polls for no other purpose than to insult and intimidate conservative voters. So "trooly loil" were they that even with murder in their hearts they sought to make the deed redound for the benefit of their party.

THE TROTTING TURF.

Closing of the Entries for the Spring Trotting Meeting at Prospect Park Fair Grounds.

The Hoffman House was largely attended last night by the owners of trotting horses. The entries for the purses to be given by the proprietors of the Prospect Park Fair Grounds had to close at that place at nine o'clock, and long before the hour named gentlemen from all sections of the country were busily preparing their entries and depositing them in the box. Much anxiety and impatience was manifested, as the time approached for opening the box, to ascertain the names of the contestants for the various prizes offered; and as soon as the entry box was opened and the names of the horses announced in the different classes took place there was considerable speculation as to the probable winners. The purses all filled well, with one exception, as will be seen by the annexed list:—

JUNE 6—Purse No. 1.—$750 for horses that have never beaten three minutes, $400 to the first, $250 to the second and $100 to third horse.
Dan'l Dunley entered r. m. Lady Emma.
G. W. Ray entered g. h. Lightning.
J. D. M. Sammis entered ch. m. Flatbush Girl.
C. R. Collyer entered blk. m. Eveline.
J. Willetts & Co. entered br. s. Edwin Booth.
M. Rodin entered s. g. Fleetwood.
O. A. Hickok entered b. g. Dunderberg.
H. W. Howe entered b. m. Sarah Jane.
Budd Doble entered b. g. Geo. W. Jarvis.
F. Mance entered br. s. W. H. Allen.
M. P. Golding entered s. m. Polly Golden.
B. Mace entered br. g. Hank.
D. Pfifer entered g. g. Lottery.
G. N. Ferguson entered b. m. Bright Eyes.
J. Bowen entered g. m. Sea Foam.

SAME DAY—Purse No. 2.—$2,000 for horses that have never beaten 2:26; $1,200 to the first, $600 to the second and $200 to the third.
D. Pfifer entered blk. s. Chas. E. Loew.
O. A. Hickok entered b. m. Western Girl.
D. A. Creamer entered b. s. H. W. Genet.
Budd Doble entered s. m. Idol.
F. J. Nodine entered ch. m. Belle Strickland.
B. Mace entered b. g. Confidence.
J. Murphy entered b. g. J. J. Bradley.
T. S. Carpenter entered s. m. Nonesuch.
E. C. White entered b. g. Ed. White.

JUNE 7—Purse No. 3.—$800 for four-year-olds that have never won money; $400 to the first, $200 to the second, $150 to the third and $50 to the fourth horse.
No entries.

SAME DAY—Purse No. 4.—$2,000 for horses that have never beaten 2:29; $1,200 to the first, $600 to the second and $200 to the third.
J. D. R. Sammis entered ch. m. Bashaw Maid.
A. Patterson entered b. m. Lady Hughes.
Parker & Shawman entered b. m. Lady Augusta.
M. Rodin entered s. g. Prince.
O. A. Hickok entered w. g. Medoc.
John Lovett entered ch. m. Berlin Girl.
H. Woodruff entered br. s. Mambrino Prince.
F. S. Carpenter entered br. s. Thomas Jefferson.
J. Bowne entered b. g. Shepherd Knapp.

SAME DAY—Purse No. 5.—$1,000 for horses that have never beaten 2:34; $550 to the first, $300 to the second, $100 to the third and $50 to the fourth horse.
F. C. Barden entered b. g. Comet.
J. H. Whitson entered ch. g. Clarence.
Jas. Durey entered br. m. Fanny Lambert.
M. Rodin entered ch. m. Purity.
Budd Doble entered br. m. Le Blonde.
John Lovell entered b. m. Lady Ross.
H. W. Howe entered blk. m. Belle Morrill.
J. Murphy entered b. m. Lady Sayres.
G. W. Smalley entered blk. g. Othello (formerly Black Crook).
E. C. White entered ch. m. Fannie Fern.
C. Champlin entered s. g. Lewis Baker (formerly Billy Burns).
J. Bowen entered br. m. Jenny.

JUNE 8—Purse No. 6.—$4,000, free for all horses; $2,000 to the first, $1,000 to the second, $600 to the third and $400 to the fourth horse.
W. H. Dobell entered b. m. Lucy.
B. Doble entered b. m. Goldsmith Maid.
B. Daniels entered b. m. American Girl.
Chas. Champlin entered br. g. George Palmer.

SAME DAY—Purse No. 7—$750 for horses that have never beaten 2:40; $450 to the first, $200 to the second, $100 to the third.
George P. Carpenter entered g. g. Marshall.
Daniel Dunley entered g. h. Thomas Jefferson.
C. R. Collyer entered blk. m. Eveline.
M. Rodin entered g. g. Fleetwood.
H. W. Howe entered b. m. Sarah Jane.
John Lovett entered br. g. Young Bruno.
F. Manee entered b. g. Newton.
J. Murphy entered b. m. Lady Murphy.
D. Pfeifer entered g. g. Lottery.
B. H. Burr entered b. g. Heathen Chinee.
A. B. Lewis, Jr., entered Major Burt.
E. Tobey entered s. m. Susey.
J. Bowen entered g. m. Sea Foam.

JUNE 9—Purse No. 8.—$3,000 for teams; $1,200 to the first, $600 to the second and $200 to the third team.
J. Lovett entered blk. g. Black Harry and Monitor (the latter formerly Anthracite).
W. L. Simmons entered br. h. George Wilkes and ch. h. Honest Allen.
H. S. Russell entered blk. mare Jessie Wales and blk. g. Darkness.

SAME DAY—Purse No. 9—$1,700 for horses that have never beaten 2:31; $1,000 to the first, $500 to the second and $200 to the third horse.
J. H. Whitson entered ch. g. Clarence.
George Freeman entered blk. m. Lady Weller (formerly Lady Wheeler).
J. L. Anderson entered b. g. G. W. Patterson.
M. Rodin entered br. g. James A. Coleman.
O. A. Hickok entered ch. h. Elmo (formerly St. Elmo).
H. W. Howe entered br. m. Lady Wells.
B. Mace entered b. m. Lydia Thompson.
P. Loomis entered g. g. Climax.
B. Daniels entered b. m. Topsey.
J. Murphy entered b. g. Charley Greene.
George P. Carpenter entered g. m. Belle of Toronto.
Charles S. Green entered s. m. Rosa Golddust.
M. Goodin entered Charley Golding.
M. Good'n entered Harry D.
C. Champlint entered b. s. Mack.
W. H. Woodruff entered b. s. Dew Drop.
J. Bowen entered g. g. Royal John.

AMUSEMENTS.

NIBLO'S.—"AS YOU LIKE IT."—The announcement that Jem Mace was to appear in the character of Charles, the Wrestler, supported by E. L. Davenport as Jacques, and C. R. Thomas, Jr., as Orlando, did not crowd this theatre last night as much as was expected. Many of the muscular brotherhood (who attended in numbers) evinced a lamentable want of Shakspearian reading, for they arrived long after Charles the Wrestler had been laid out by Orlando, and retired early, thoroughly disgusted. Mr. Mace's rendering of his part was unexceptionable, and gives great promise of more successful efforts on another stage. He looked the part and his get-up was much scrutinized. As he stood with folded arms by the Duke Frederick (Harry Moreland), he looked a perfect statue, with the corded muscles standing boldly out on leg, thigh and arm. He spoke his lines as became a man who depended more on his biceps than his tongue. It was curious that the audience did not mentally compare him with Thorne as Orlando, but rather with Orlando as Joe Coburn. Enough to say that, after whirling the comparatively stalwart Thorne around the stage for a few minutes, he graciously permitted the latter to throw him on his back, and afterwards allowed four soldier supes to test the fineness of his training by carrying him off. It is needless to add that an appreciative audience recalled the smiling and modest gladiator twice. Turning from Shakspeare, as illustrated by this pet of the P. R., we will be excused for casting a glance at the other characters of this exquisite comedy. The Rosalind of the evening was Miss Rose Evans, a wild flower from the Pacific shores. In this little lady, with her young, fresh face, her fine form and finer grace and surprising power, to be called forth at will, the New York stage has gained a great acquisition. Her playing throughout was marked by an arch grace, in which womanly reserve was never overstepped through all the changing phases of the piece. The mock love scene with Orlando was perfect, and called forth genuine plaudits. She does not *pose* so much as Mrs. Scott-Siddons in this part, and there is a freshness about the rendering which is all natural. The public will want to hear her again. Mr. Thorne's Orlando was manly and vigorous. The *rôle* of the melancholy philosopher, Jacques, which is of so little use to the plot, and yet which holds such a sympathetic grasp on an audience, was rendered in Mr. Davenport's finest manner. Touchstone's dry humor was well given by Mr. Morton, and the aged reverential affection of Adam touchingly demonstrated by sterling John Jack. Mr. Fitzgerald's Oliver deserves a special mention for a small part. Mr. Bruno's William was good as needful. Miss Vernon as Celia and Mrs. Edward Wright as Audrey were good of their kind, and another fair *débutante*, Miss Marion Ray, played prettily as pettish Phœbe. To-night Mr. Davenport resumes his really leading *rôle* in "A New Way to Pay Old Debts."

STADT THEATRE—L'AFRICAINE.—A very large and unusually brilliant house greeted last night the first production of Meyerbeer's posthumous opera, at this German temple of the arts. The cast was the following:—Selica, Louise Lichtmay; Vasco, Herr Bernard; Nelusko, Herr Vierling; Ines, Miss Roemer; Don Diego, Weinlich; Don Alvaro, Alstroem. The opera was played for the first time at the Grand Opera House, Paris, on April 28, 1865, with Mme. Saxe, Mlle. Battu and Naudin, Favre, Warot and Belval in the leading *rôles*. Mr. J. Grau was the first to present it in this country and Zucchi was the first Selica introduced to the New York public. The performance last night proved the fact that Mme. Lichtmay is the best lyric *artiste* we have at present in this city, for she made her greatest success in the principal *rôle*. Mlle. Roemer was fair and nothing more as Ines, and Mr. Vierling, a sure, true, conscientious artist, made the part of Nelusko such a success that to him, after Mme. Lichtmay, the triumph of the opera is due. The tenor, Bernard, was so bad that we wonder that such an able manager as Mr. Rosenberg would ever allow him to attempt such a difficult *rôle*. Habelmann would have been infinitely better. The opera was placed on the stage admirably, and Mr. Rosenberg deserves much credit for it. The ship was a little shaky, but the tree redeemed all. Altogether the opera was a success, and the Stadt theatre, which under the Hamann auspices became a standing reproach to the metropolis, has proved with Rosenberg such a success as few even of the enthusiastic Teutonic kind would ever hope for.

PARK THEATRE, BROOKLYN.—The numerous patrons of this well managed and excellent place of amusement were treated last night to a most excellent entertainment. The play was Mr. F. G. Maeder's "Help." It is not a piece of very great excellence, but it is one which is peculiarly fitted for the display of the singular talent which Mr. Joseph Murphy possesses. As Ned Daly Mr. Murphy displayed a wonderful versatility, and comported himself with more ease and grace than we would expect to find in one who had already obtained a reputation in minor characters. The story of the play is well known, and need not be repeated. All the actors supporting Mr. Murphy acquitted themselves with ability and contributed to make the piece a success.

Musical and Theatrical Notes.

Miss Olive Logan sails for England in the Scotia to-day, bearing letters of introduction to Tom Hughes, the Duke of Buckingham and a number of other English notables from her friends in this country.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence leave to-day for Europe by the steamer Scotia. The talented couple will visit Switzerland and Italy, and will probably play an engagement at the London Olympic ere they return.

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams will sail in the same vessel with the Florences. They have made arrangements to stay abroad two or three years. They will also make a tour of the Continent, and may possibly be induced to appear at some of the leading English or Irish theatres.

Mrs. Macready will, in answer to a numerously signed call, give one of her superb readings at Steinway Hall this evening. The programme proposed for the occasion is as follows:—"The Changed Cross;" "Midsummer Night's Dream"—Shakspeare, Act I., scene 1—A room in the palace of Theseus. Characters represented—Theseus, Egeus, Lysander, Hermia and Helena. "Will the New Year Come To-night?"—two phases in the life of a child, arranged for recitation by Mrs. Macready. "Pain in a Pleasure Boat"—Hood. "Love Chase"—Knowles. Act II., scene 2, Description of the Hunt. Act III., scene 2, the Lovers' Quarrel. Characters represented, Constance and Wildrake. "The Bells"—Edgar A. Poe. Mrs. Macready will give her original conception of this peculiar poem, considered the most difficult of rendition of any in the English language. An imitation of the intonation of the different bells will be given. "The Polish Boy"—Ann S. Stephens. "The Candidates for Office," a burlesque. "Macbeth." Act I., scenes 5 and 7—A Hall in Macbeth's Castle. Characters represented—Lady Macbeth, Macbeth and Attendant. Act V., scene 2—The Sleeping Scene. Characters represented—Lady Macbeth, Physician and Nurse.

ANARCHY IN ARKANSAS.

Serious Troubles in Chicate County—Purchasing a Seat in the United States Senate—Governor Clayton's Appointments Repudiated—Negroes on the Point of Rebellion.

MEMPHIS, Tenn, May 2, 1871.

A Little Rock special of last night says serious troubles are reported in Chicate county, the largest negro district in the State. Just prior to his late late election as Senator Governor Clayton appointed Senator J. W. Mason (colored), of Chicate county, Probate Judge, as it is alleged, to secure his vote for Senatorship; but just on the heels of the session Governor Clayton appointed Major Ragland, of Jefferson county, to that position, and, under Clayton's instructions, the Senate refused to take up and act on Mason's nomination, and by that means it was expected to get rid of him; but Mason went home and took possession of the office, and the colored men made Ragland leave the country. To add to this the Governor recently appointed Conway Barbour (colored), lately a resident of Cincinnati, and a member of the House from Lafayette, as assessor of Choate county, ignoring the claims of all the colored residents in that county. This incensed the negroes still more; and when Barbour went down he only remained two days, a negro telling him "it would be better for his health if he made himself scarce."

The negroes are reported to be on the point of outbreak, and should the Governor attempt to force these men on them there will be trouble. Mason and Representative Wood (colored) are now here to see the Governor on the subject.

CIVIL RIGHTS IN TENNESSEE.

Right of Common Carriers—Railroad Companies to Regulate Their Own Affairs.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 2, 1871.

On complaint of George Carpenter and wife (colored), Major Compton, a conductor on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, and others, were indicted in the Federal Court, now sitting here, for forcibly ejecting them from the ladies' car on said road. The defendant's counsel moved to quash the indictment, and after argument Judge Twigg gave a decision on the motion in favor of the defendants, and they were discharged. The ground of the decision was that common carriers had a right to regulate their own affairs. He decided, further, that the plaintiffs might sue for damages, the jury to determine whether their rights had been infringed.

NO NAVIGATION.

The Great Breach in the Erie Canal.

Communication with the Lakes Cut Off—Canal Navigation to Be Impeded for a Month—Full Particulars from the Scene of the Disaster.

PITTSFORD, N. Y., April 30, 1871.

The great breach in the Erie Canal, about three miles below this place, the bare fact of which was telegraphed the HERALD yesterday, has to-day (Sunday) attracted many thousands of visitors to the scene. Long before the church bells of Rochester and the adjacent villages began to ring out their calls to the faithful, and in the midst of a drizzling rain, a curious multitude thronged the roads for miles in every direction, and it is estimated that the carriages and other vehicles on the spot during the day would number nearly 1,000. The immediate

SCENE OF THE BREACH

is a place called the Ox-Bow (from a tortuous bend in the old canal, since avoided in the enlargement), and is but a short distance from the point where a similar, though smaller chasm, was formed on the letting in of the water about a week ago. It is almost the exact locality of a large breach some five years ago, in which one or more boats were lost, a house was carried away and its occupant, an old man, drowned. Many bridges and considerable mill property was also at the time destroyed. About two miles above is where the breach in

THE GREAT EMBANKMENT

occurred some fifteen or more years ago. Here is a range of hills, the last out-cropping of a distant spur of the Alleghanies, and at the foot of their western slope the canal runs parallel with them and crosses a ravine notched in their side. To effect this crossing an embankment has been thrown up, forty feet in height, about 150 feet in width at the base and twenty feet in width at the top, and something less than a mile in length. The ravine, which narrows in the hillside, is flooded to save building a second embankment, and the water, when navigation is opened, is at some points here thirty feet in depth. Stretching away to the westward below the canal is a low, marshy and sparsely wooded tract of country, dotted here and there with farm houses and cottages. The entire area of the flooded portion of the ravine is probably not more than twenty acres, but this body of water, averaging, perhaps, no more than two fathoms in depth, combined with the pressure of the strong current coming down from above, was too great for the badly constructed and worse repaired banks in the condition they had been left by the frosts of last winter and the muskrats this spring.

THE GATHERING OF THE WATERS.

Since the water was admitted to this level, seventeen miles long, on the 24th instant, a watchman has been kept on the banks day and night. He, however failed to discover the breach of a week ago, till, after a great deal of damage had been done, and, though he claims to have passed the point where the present one has been made only ten minutes before the bank gave way, about eleven o'clock Friday night, he says he saw nothing to excite a suspicion of danger. A repair scow, which had been stationed at this point during the day, dropped down the stream early in the evening, and the men were at the village of Fairport, a mile and a half below. The canal boats Barney Bird, L. W. Clark and J. W. Raven, bound west, without cargo, were racing, and the first came opposite the point of the breach at about eleven o'clock Friday night, the others being some distance behind. The horses and driver had hardly passed the treacherous section of the bank when it gave way, and the escaping water instantly sucked the Barney Bird into the gap. The driver, with the presence of mind which distinguishes his class when their horses are in danger, instantly cut the tow line and saved his animals. It was well, then, for those on board, that the boat was not laden. The column of water, at this time but a few yards wide and less than two fathoms deep, spurted into the meadow forty-eight feet below, and on the arch of its surface

SAILED THE BARNEY BIRD.

John Perril, the captain, was at the helm. In the cabin his sister and brother were sleeping. The captain looked away to the west and below and saw the dark woods and a house, in the window of which a light was burning; down, beneath him, into which the boat seemed pitching headlong, was a meadow. He left the tiller and threw himself on the deck, grasping a projecting cleet of the hatchway, prepared to cling to the last chance for life, yet expecting to be dashed to instant death. The boat went spinning down, but there came no shock; the moments passing seemed hours. He looked towards the bow, where the great lamp threw out its stream of light, and saw the waters surging on away in advance of them. It could hardly have been more than a minute before he felt the shadow of the wood, and a second later the boat was dashed against the forest trees with a great shock. It swung round and the giant trunks held it firm.

In ten minutes the water had abated so the boat laid on the ground. It had

RUN NEARLY A MILE IN A MINUTE.

Above, on the trunk of an elm, was the mark where the boat had struck, breaking the branches. It was by measurement exactly seventeen feet from the ground.

I have said the waters had abated; they were still pouring forth from the distant gap with a thundering roar, heard at the hotel in the village where I am writing, three miles distant. There was a column of water six feet by sixty and seventeen miles long to be disgorged upon these low lands. Yet when the immediate pressure of the ravine reservoir was somewhat removed

THE TORRENT SLACKENED.

This, with the spreading of the waters over a great area, and their discovery of a multitude of channels, soon diminished the depth of the flood to hardly more than three feet. When the captain of the L. W. Clark (an Ithaca Laker) saw the Barney Bird disappear in its erratic course over the bank and at right angles with the canal, and there came to his ears the roar of the escaping water, he directed the course of his boat towards the towpath, where he hastily secured it with a large ship's hawser to a convenient telegraph pole. Finding the suction of the water so strong that it threatened to tear her loose, he threw overboard an anchor, attached to the bowline, by which means she was held till she grounded. The watchman and repairmen soon came to the scene, but could only stand passive witnesses of the destruction going on. Messengers were despatched to Rochester, to the contractor, Mr. Lewis Selye, ex-member of Congress, and despatches were sent to Albany. At six o'clock in the morning State Engineer Richmond, Commissioner Fay, Senator Lord and contractor Selye were on the ground. By that time water in the canal was getting very low, and the Commissioner, in a despatch to the Auditor of the Canal Department at Albany, estimated the earth carried out from the bank as between twenty-five and thirty thousand yards. The gap in the bank could not then be accurately measured. As the day wore on the water running through the gap was reduced to a rivulet, and the meadows in the higher places were left bare. Fish were found floundering on the grass and in puddles, some of them weighing fifteen pounds. The crew of the Barney Bird got down off their boat and went fishing in the fields, and soon the meadow was sprinkled with groups of the curious, of idlers and urchins, all for the nonce enthusiastic disciples of Walton. The enjoyment of the rustics was, however, considerably dampened by frequent showers of rain, and few were left in the vicinity at nightfall.

THE SCENE TO-DAY,

notwithstanding the rain of the morning, was unique and picturesque. The entire Board of Aldermen of the city of Rochester appeared to be upon the ground, with some two thousand of its other citizens. They came in phaetons, coupes, barouches, buggies, gigs, express wagons, and on horseback, and their numbers were swelled by rusty looking "roosters" from all the villages for ten miles around. In the carriages were many ladies, and not a few farmers' boys walked "to the breach," with their best girls hanging on their arms.

LOOKING INTO THE CANAL

from the bank, one observed great fissures in the bottom, opening up thirty feet below one's feet and extending above and below the gap for half a mile. The gap itself was nearly fifty feet in depth and more than two hundred broad. In the bottom of the canal some two hundred men were working with shovels and about twenty teams with ploughs, scrapers and wagons. It will require the labor of 1,000 men and 100 pairs of horses for one month to repair the damages so that navigation can be resumed, and at this season of the year it is difficult to employ either men or horses in the country. Still, rumors are circulated already twenty and thirty miles away that a man and team are paid a dollar and a half an hour for this labor and wagons bearing men and boys with an old trunk and a few bags of oats, are arriving from distant points every hour during the day and night. It is impossible to estimate the

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF DAMAGES

at this time. Doubtless, including the loss that will incur from the detention of merchandise in transit, it will reach nearly if not quite a quarter of a million of dollars. The roads, bridges and the dams of several mills between here and Lake Ontario have been destroyed or carried away by the water which swept over them, and rumors of heavy private losses are current. In regard to the cause of the catastrophe there are endless varieties of opinion, not a few claiming that it was the work of interested persons. Only on one point are they all agreed, and that is, that it will take a long time to repair the damage and it will cost the State a princely sum.

Personal Intelligence.

General McClellan and wife have apartments at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Miss Clara Louise Kellogg is at the Clarendon Hotel.

Colonel W. B. Greenlaw, of Memphis, is a guest at the St. Nicholas.

Colonel D. Gillett, of Washington, is registered at the St. James.

General Lefroy and family, of Bermuda, and Captain C. French, of his staff, are domiciled at the Fifth Avenue.

Lyman Trumbull, United States Senator from Illinois, and Perry Trumbull, are domiciled at the Astor House.

Colonel M. C. Wilcox, of Knoxville, Tenn., is a guest at the Grand Central.

Judge Fairfax, of Nashville, is at the Sturtevant House.

Edward Sacre, of London, is stopping at the Brevoort House.

S. C. Pomeroy, United States Senator from Kansas, is being entertained at the Astor House.

Judge Clifford, of the United States Supreme Court, is stopping at the Fifth Avenue.

Asa Packer, of Pennsylvania, is a guest at the Astor House.

General A. E. Burnside is domiciled at the Fifth Avenue.

Governor F. Fuller is at the Astor House.

W. S. King, postmaster of the House of Representatives, is registered at the Fifth Avenue.

Homer A. Nelson, Secretary of New York State, is residing at the Fifth Avenue.

General F. E. Spinner, Treasurer of the United States; Barney Williams and wife, Billy Florence and wife, and William F. Garrard, of the De Soto, sail in the Scotia to-day for Europe.

Mr. James H. Hacket has taken for his summer residence the one formerly known as the country seat of the late J. De Peyster Ogden, at Jamaica, L. I.

MOVEMENTS OF PROMINENT PERSONS IN THE COUNTRY.

Secretary Belknap is in Cincinnati.

Judge Sanford E. Church was in Rochester on Monday.

Parson Brownlow, Tennessee United States Senator, is recovering his health.

Ex-President Johnson is to deliver a lecture in Nashville on "Mechanical Skill and Industry."

General Albert Pike delivered an address to the Free Masons of Augusta, Ga., on the 26th ult.

Canal Commissioners Wright and Fay are looking after the big break in the Erie canal near Rochester.

Rev. Robert Laird Collier will be in Boston during anniversary week, and will speak at many of the meetings.

Bishop D. W. Clark, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is lying dangerously ill at his residence in Cincinnati.

Sampson, the heathen Chinese man of North Adams, Mass., talks of sending for half a hundred more Celestials.

Du Chaillu, the gorilla catcher, is about ready to start on his Norway, Sweden and other northern countries trip.

FOREIGN PERSONAL GOSSIP.

—Edmond About has been appointed French Minister Plenipotentiary to Lisbon.

—Rochefort estimates the value of M. Thiers' mansion in Paris at 2,000,000 francs.

—M. Dalonvert, chief of police under the empire, is under lock and key at the Conciergerie.

—M. Chaudey, editor in chief of the *Siècle*, is tasting the tender mercies of the Commune at the prison of Mazas.

—The Duke of Norfolk, in his address to the Pope, called Holy See the basis of all civilization and progress.

—Dr. Neumayer, of the German Geographical Society of Berlin, lately proposed a scientific expedition to the South Indian Ocean.

—The Czar of Russia, says the *Independance Belge*, will pay a visit this year to the Sultan of Turkey, on his way to Jerusalem.

—His Holiness the Pope has transmitted to the French Minister of Finance a sum of 10,000 francs in aid of the victims of the war.

WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 2—7:30 P. M.

Synopsis for the Past Twenty-four Hours.

The barometer continues falling at San Francisco with decided increase of temperature. It has remained stationary in the Rocky Mountains, with rising temperature. The low pressure on Monday evening in Missouri has extended eastward, and the barometer, which had risen on the lakes and in the Southern States, is now stationary or falling. The pressure has risen in the Eastern States. The clear and clearing weather in the Middle and Eastern States is now being rapidly succeeded by the clouds and light rain, which now prevail east of the Mississippi. Northeast winds continue to prevail on the lakes; southerly winds in the Gulf.

Probabilities.

It is very probable that cloudy and, perhaps, rainy weather will on Wednesday be experienced at San Francisco; increased northeast winds, with rain, are probable for the lakes; cloudy weather, with light rains, along the Atlantic coast, and fresh southerly winds on the Gulf.

THE PACIFIC COAST.

Meeting of the American Medical Association in San Francisco—Death of a New York Broker—Vintage of California.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 2, 1871.

Between 300 and 400 delegates are in attendance at the meeting of the American Medical Association. Dr. Alfred Stelle, of Philadelphia, is chairman. The session will last until Friday