SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

The Recall of Minister Roberts and of Captain General Valmaseda.

The Appointment of Marshal Concha Discouraging to the Cubans—Spain's Policy More Bellicose—A Clean Sweep of the Principal Officials in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1871.

Señor Roberts, the Spanish Minister, has received official notification of his recall, which was partly due to the influence of Marshal Concha, who accepted the Captain Generalship only on condition that the Legation at Washington should be filled by a nominee of his own. General Crespo, Acting Captain General during the late massacre of the students, and all the heads of departments in Cuba, have also been removed, and their places are to be filled by men of Concha's choice. Admiral Polo de Barnabe, the successor of Señor Roberts, will leave Madrid without delay.

The changes in the government of Cuba, as well as in the representation of the Spanish government here, is the subject of considerable speculation. The fact that Concha is even more the tool of the volunteers than Valmaseda is regarded by the friends of the Cuban patriots as in no way encouraging, and the change from the warlike tone of our own government is considered extremely ominous. Mr. Fish's policy has evidently triumphed over that of Babcock, and Robeson is once more gentle as a sucking dove.

The New Spanish Minister.

Don José Polo de Barnabe, since 1869 Rear Admiral of the Spanish navy and lately commander of a squadron in the Mediterranean, is yet in the prime of life and a man of great energy, but, to judge from his antecedents, scarcely fitted to fill the part of a diplomatic representative. He has passed the greater part of his naval career in and around Cuba, and is therefore well acquainted with the affairs of that island. His appointment, coupled with that of Marshal Concha, seems certainly unfavorable to the maintenance of friendly relations between the United States and Spain. Admiral Polo de Barnabe made himself prominent under the reign of Queen Isabella, by advocating violent measures against the South American republics, particularly against the republic of Peru. He was so violent in his attack on the government for what he called its truckling to the United States and in demanding a more vigorous prosecution of the war that he was removed from his position. He predicted that the defeat of the Peruvians would ultimately lead to the restoration of Spain's supremacy over all her former colonies in South America. While he incurred the disfavor of the royal court, his violent denunciation of the government on this question made him quite popular among the hot-headed Spanish politicians. And when he was removed from his command in the navy he was immediately chosen a member of the Cortes, where he continued his attacks on the Cabinet. He has published a pamphlet entitled "The Future Greatness of Spain," which, in one of its chapters, treated the relations of Spain to the United States. Admiral Polo contended in it that the Monroe doctrine was an insolent assumption on the part of the United States, and that Spain had more reason than any other European country to disregard and defy it. The author also tried to prove, from documents relating to the war against the rebellion, that the aggressive strength of the United States was far inferior to that of Spain; that the American navy was unable to cope with the Spanish fleet, and that a war between the two countries would be certain to end in favor of Spain, the more so as Spanish privateers could not only greatly injure, but totally destroy, the foreign trade of the United States. After the overthrow of Queen Isabella in September, 1868, Admiral Polo was reinstated in his former position, and became the most faithful adherent of Admiral Topete, under whom he at one time held the position of Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Having taken an active part in the intrigues which led to the election of King Amadeus he was rewarded with a promotion and placed in command of the Spanish fleet in the Mediterranean. He has ever since been a favorite at the Court of the new monarch. As regards the Cuban question, Admiral Polo has always voted in the Cortes in favor of the most rigorous measures for the suppression of the rebellion. The new Ambassador is said to be a perfect fire-eater and to entertain the most exaggerated ideas of the power and greatness of Spain.

FRANCE.

The Arrest of Citizen Hostages by the Germans Denied—Note Issue Circulation of the Bank—The Supply of Bullion—"Patience" a Point of Radical Profession.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, Dec. 29, 1871.

The *Official Journal* denies that the Germans have made any arrests of French citizens to be held as hostages.

THE BANK OF FRANCE.

The legislative committee on the subject of the condition of the Bank of France is disposed to increase the circulation of the bank 300,000,000f., instead of 600,000,000f., as demanded by the government.

STOCK OF BULLION IN THE BANK.

The bullion in the bank of France has decreased 800,000f. during the week.

RADICALISM WITH REASON.

M. Gambetta, who was last at Versailles, has gone to Toulon. While at the former city he addressed the radicals, counselling "patience and moderation."

The Army Reorganization Plan.

PARIS, Dec. 29—P. M.

The committee of the Assembly on the reorganization of the army propose to make the term of military service five years on active duty, four years in the first reserve and six years in the secondary reserve.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

French Attempt to Murder German Soldiers in the Hostaged Territory—Prussian Retaliation for Personal Insult.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Dec. 29, 1871.

An attempt was made on Sunday night in the town of Charleville, in the Department of Ardennes, France, to assassinate a corporal and trumpeter belonging to a Bavarian regiment quartered in that place.

The wounds received by the corporal, it is believed, will result in death.

The German military authorities have commenced a searching investigation into the affair, with the object of discovering and punishing the would-be assassins. The repeated outrages which are committed upon the German troops in the occupied departments of France have caused the issue of orders by the Prussians providing for the severe chastisement of all persons guilty of such offences.

A HOSTAGE.

The master of a college in Vitry le François has been seized and held as a hostage, because some of the students under his charge manifested their disapproval of the presence of the German soldiers.

ENGLAND.

The Police Prosecutions of Bohemian Literature.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Dec. 29, 1871.

The government proceedings against the dealers in a city press periodical, under the police court law, against circulating literature of a demoralizing tendency has been suspended for three months, on the promise of the accused to stop selling the paper.

THE KU KLUX TRIALS.

Several Prisoners Plead Guilty and Are Sentenced at Once—The Trial of Dr. Avery.

COLUMBUS, S. C., Dec. 29, 1871.

In the United States Court to-day the following Ku Klux prisoners pleaded guilty and were sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment and $100 fine:—Henry C. Warlick, Milus Carroll, Eli Ross Stuart, Josiah Martin and Samuel J. Brown.

The trial of Dr. Edward Avery, charged with conspiracy in preventing colored men from voting in October, 1871, and for punishing them for voting in 1870, then began.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Queen Victoria's Thanks to the Nation for Its Sympathy for Her Family—Prince Albert's Memory—"The Best, Wisest and Kindest Husband."

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Dec. 29, 1871.

This afternoon's papers publish a letter from Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in which she says she "desires to express her deep sense of the touching sympathy exhibited for her family by the whole nation at the illness of her dear son, the Prince of Wales."

The universal feeling, says the Queen, shown by her people during the painful and terrible days of the Prince's illness, their sympathy with herself and her beloved daughter the Princess of Wales and the general joy manifested at the improvement in the health of the Prince has made a deep and ineffaceable impression upon her heart. The manifestations of the people are nothing new to her, for she met with the same sympathy ten years ago, when a similar illness to that under which her son is suffering removed the "mainstay of her life—the best, wisest and kindest husband that ever lived."

Her Majesty says she also wishes to express the heartfelt gratitude of the Princess of Wales, and concludes her letter by the expression of the hope that "her faithful subjects will continue to pray for the complete recovery of the Prince."

The Prince of Wales' Health.

LONDON, Dec. 29—2 P. M.

The bulletin from Sandringham to-day states that the Prince is gaining strength, and the swelling above the hip is subsiding and causes less pain.

STARTLING STORY THAT THE PRINCE OF WALES WAS POISONED.

The Secret Council of the International Society Resolves to Assassinate the Prince of Wales by Poison—How the Poison Was Given to the Prince—His Death Resolved on by the Fanatics of the Society.

LONDON, Dec. 13, 1871.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

I have heard a terrible thing. It is that the assassination of the Prince of Wales by poison has been attempted by the Secret Council of the International Society in England, to whose programme of a British republic, it would seem, the existence of His Royal Highness is the chiefest difficulty, and who, consequently, decreed his death as a political necessity. I may not tell who my informant is—indeed, I know neither his true name nor his nationality, but I do know him to be a man who has been all his life through a propagandist of the revolution. My first thought last night when he told me

THIS POISON STORY

was that he raved, but in a few minutes if he had not vanquished my incredulity he had staggered it. He bid me remember that a certain leader of the English revolutionists, whom he designated, and fitly, as it seems to me, "The English Delescluze," has over and over declared from public platforms that

THE PRINCE SHOULD NEVER SIT ON THE THRONE,

and that lately, when Queen Victoria was seriously ill, the same man had said, in an interview with the reporter of a London paper, that although the event of the sovereign's death occurring just then would, without any doubt, find the society not quite prepared to act, yet that they could never lose such an opportunity to advance their cause. According to my informant the Secret Council have since considered that a movement now or for some time to come would, under any circumstances, be so premature as to involve the greatest risk of failure and of irretrievable disaster; and as, on the other hand,

THE ACCESSION OF THE PRINCE

would be the ruin of all their grand and ripening hopes, they determined to send him to an early grave. It was certainly true that the Prince's eldest son would inherit his father's so-called "right" to the throne; but the revolutionary leaders believe that a boy King and a long regency would so thoroughly open the eyes of the English people to the uselessness of the monarchy that long before the boy would be a man the House of Brunswick should have ceased to reign. My informant declared

THE PUBLISHED STORY OF THE PRINCE'S ILLNESS

being typhoid fever false and an invention of the doctors at Sandringham, either as the most plausible with which to cloak their ignorance of symptoms they do not understand, but which perhaps bear some likeness to those really attending that disease, or else, for reasons not hard to guess at, to conceal the truth and deceive the world with a lie. The poison, he said, was a newly discovered and most subtle one.

HOW THE PRINCE WAS ACTUALLY DOSED

he did not pretend to know. The emissary of the International charged with the execution of the sentence of death was left to himself, and was simply bidden to take as few innocent lives in carrying it out as possible; but it was suggested to him to mix the poison with the contents of the Prince's pocket flask, and this it was probable he had succeeded in doing, as

LORD CHESTERFIELD

was the only person among the company assembled at Londesborough House who was affected in the same way as the Prince, and his case would be accounted for by the supposition that he had partaken of the contents of the fatal flask.

THE EMISSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL.

My informant said the emissary had opportunities of being closely about the Prince at Londesborough House, but whether as a guest or an attendant he declined to tell me. He alluded to him as "the agent of the society," and said he was urged not to fail, and knew well that any treachery on his part would have cost him his life. It was to this effect my informant spoke. You may think he was out of his mind, but I do not, when I recollect what political fanatics are and the high and frightful crimes of Felice Orsini and Wilkes Booth.

IN RELATING THIS STORY

I neither express belief nor disbelief in it. If true confirmations will soon come in to you from other sources. As we parted my informant said, "If the Prince recovers now it will be a miracle; but he must not be permitted to live long; his death is necessary to the revolution." The latest telegram I have seen to-day says the Prince still lives, and I close with a prayer for his recovery as earnest and sincere as has been offered by any subject of the Queen, his mother.

CUBA.

Enthusiastic Reception of Colored Troops at Havana.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

HAVANA, Dec. 29, 1871.

Four companies of colored Havana firemen, who have been operating in the Cinco Villas district, but were recently relieved by order of Captain General Valmaseda because there were sufficient troops in that district, returned to Havana this evening, and were received with enthusiasm. They are the first troops that have returned from the insurrectionary districts.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS ITEMS.

The new Hudson River bridge at Albany is completed and trains pass over it.

Governor Hoffman's message will be very long, making 70,000 ems, or about ten columns of small type.

The directors of the European and North American Railroad yesterday elected M. H. Angell superintendent, vice Lent resigned.

The frigate Chattanooga, sunk at League Island, was used as a storeship. The machinery had been removed, as she was a complete failure as a war vessel.

The snow blockade on the Union Pacific Railroad, between Laramie and Rawlins stations, continues. The track is reported clear east of Laramie and west of Rawlins.

B. W. Morgan, the defeated candidate at Pittsburg for Mayor, has entered a criminal suit for libel against the proprietors of the *Evening Leader* for articles published against him during the campaign.

George P. Carr, Judge of St. John the Baptist parish, Louisiana, committed suicide yesterday at Magnolia, Miss., while in a fit of temporary insanity. He was aged about twenty-eight years and was a native of Illinois.

A. Hicken Cooper and others, composing a committee appointed by the Grand Army of the Republic to make arrangements for the erection of a monument to the late General J. B. McPherson, have sued T. D. Jones, sculptor, of Cincinnati, to recover $19,125 damages for failing to complete the work in the time specified in the contract.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

The Rural Solons Flocking Into Town—Speculations Respecting the Speakership—Alvord's Chances Bright—Prospect of a Heavy Lobbying Season—"Will the 'Boss' Come Up?"—Tweed and Tammany "Played Out."

ALBANY, Dec. 29, 1871.

Albany begins to wear some appearance of life and excitement; not from the actual arrival of members—not more than twenty of whom are present—but from the early commencement of energetic efforts by the lobby in behalf of their several candidates for the Speakership. Alvord is already here, with a crowd of adherents, who talk confidently of success; but as they belong to outside "rings," his present apparent strength may prove fallacious when members arrive more freely. Still, Alvord's chances are unquestionably the best. At this moment he seems the only candidate of positive personal strength. The movement in New York last night, virtually throwing overboard Henry Smith, of Albany, is much canvassed, and is regarded as decidedly favorable to Alvord, for two reasons—First, because all Smith's positive strength is certain to go for Alvord when Smith is out of the way; second, because it is believed that Smith is repudiated by the New Yorkers only for the purpose of offering themselves on the market for positions to the candidate likely to command the greatest strength. As this will probably be Alvord, it is supposed that he will be able to make bargains for votes from New York.

It is said that members from down the river scent enormous jobs out of the New York bills, considering the large amount of offices and valuable charters to be given away. Hence they are over eager to secure positions on influential standing committees. Alvord's friends say that the intimations thrown out in favor of the support of Prince Twombley for the Speakership are all shams. Twombley has no strength. He would not be supported by the Custom House clique in good faith because, it is well known that he is in intimate relations with Hepburn, who is hand and glove with Police Commissioner Hank Smith and Dilks. Hence it is believed that Smith, of Albany, will be thrown over only for the purpose of bringing the down river votes into the market for the highest bidder.

Senator Ramsey, with a strong Susquehanna Railroad lobby, is here, still adhering to the fortunes of Henry Smith; but the candidate himself almost gives up the fight, and is prepared to go in for Alvord on condition that he is given the chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee.

Alberger, of Buffalo, is here, looking out slyly for chances, but without the hope of doing more than securing a good position on a committee. He aspires to the chairmanship of the Ways and Means, but is willing to put up with that of Canals. He declares that Alvord is his second choice after himself.

The method of canvassing for position is illustrated by a scene in Alvord's room to-day:—

GREEN-LOOKING COUNTRY EX-MEMBER—Well, Governor, I guess G——, our member, is all right; but he wants a good bargain.

ALVORD—What does he require?

EX-MEMBER—Well, he wants a position on the Ways and Means and one doorkeeper.

"I shall do the best I can for my friends," was Alvord's diplomatic reply.

Up to the present moment the whole Canal strength seems to be thrown for Alvord, together with much of the Railroad strength. The latter is, however, divided by Henry Smith. The members now here are all from the rural districts, and not one speaks of any other candidates than Alvord, Smith and Alberger.

Many declare that the republican dissensions in New York city and the bitter abuse of republicans from the country by their own organs in the city render it inexpedient to place any down-river member in the Speaker's chair, they being all identified with the fight on one side or the other. The country members say, "We want no New York squabbles brought into the Assembly Chamber."

In view of the subject of first consideration, the Speakership, none of the contemplated jobs are yet mooted; but from the character of the lobby vultures already gathering here in crowds it is evident that there will be no lack of jobs during the coming session.

For the Clerkship of the Senate the prominent candidates are James Terwilliger, Secretary of the Custom House, and William G. Weed, of Albany. Terwilliger has not yet put in an appearance.

For the House clerkship Edward Johnson, of Steuben, has the inside track. Among the crowd of other candidates are Edward Underhill, ex-Assemblyman Bignall and Underwood, who has been for years hanging about as deputy inside clerk, and others too numerous to mention.

"Will Tweed come up?" seems to be a question of much moment. The bankers in the interest of faro; the hack drivers, gin sellers, hotel keepers and hall boys will sadly miss the gang who followed the "Boss" and made the money fly so freely during the past few years. It is rather suggestive that no rooms have been engaged by or for "Tweedy;" and the elegant apartments in which he held his levees, in which the Committee on Municipal Affairs compounded the charters and tax levies and such like pleasing doses for poor, devoted Gotham, are in the market for the highest bidder.

The country members are flocking in, and all seem to be very hungry for spoils. It is safe to presume that there will be some heavy lobbying done and any amount of corruption.

None of what was familiarly known as "the gang" have applied for quarters at the hotels, so that it may safely be said that Tammany has given up the ghost in earnest.

THE WABASH.

Rumor That She Had Lost Forty Men in a Gale—The Vessel Arrived in European Waters—No Notice of the Alleged Disaster Sent On.

A rumor of a very startling kind appeared in the evening papers of this city yesterday afternoon, founded on a statement in the *Nautical Gazette*, which took form in this wise:—

The *Nautical Gazette* of this city has received a report from Boston to the effect that the United States frigate Wabash, on her passage across the Atlantic, encountered a severe gale, in which between thirty and forty men were lost overboard. No date of the alleged disaster is given, and it is hoped that the report is unfounded.

The first class frigate Wabash sailed from New York in the second week of November last, under the command of Rear Admiral Alden, for Cadiz, to take her place in the Mediterranean as flagship of the European squadron. It will be remembered that she had on board as passengers General Sherman and Lieutenant Fred Grant, son of the President. She arrived safely in Cadiz on the 16th inst., and the public was informed on Thursday by cable that the General and the Lieutenant were expected in Paris the day following. There can be no danger, then, as regards our representative tourists. From all inquiries, then, it seems, the report that the *Nautical Gazette* had received a despatch from Boston to the effect that the frigate Wabash had encountered a severe gale and lost thirty or forty men overboard is pronounced false by the editor of that journal. Nothing has been heard from any other source of such a disaster. Inquiries have been made at Boston and Washington to trace the origin of the rumor.

The following telegrams will explain themselves, and doubtless put a stop to all further fears on the subject:—

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1871.

The Navy Department has received no information relative to the alleged disaster to the frigate Wabash. The last heard from her was by a cable telegram, on the 16th inst., announcing her arrival at Cadiz; all well. She would thence go to the Mediterranean; but the time was not stated.

BOSTON, Dec. 29, 1871.

Careful inquiry fails to confirm the reported loss of men from the Wabash, and the statement is not credited here.

JUDGE LYNCH AGAIN.

The Ku Klux Marauders First Attacking a Colored Man—Then Imprisoning and Finally Hanging Him.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 29, 1871.

Last Friday evening, says the correspondent of the *Times and Chronicle*, a man named Browning accompanied by others, went to the house of George Duncan, colored, in Bracken county, Kentucky, it is said, to whip the latter or eject him from the house. Duncan showed fight, and on the door being broken down by his assailants, fired into the crowd and killed Browning. Duncan was captured and taken to Brookville jail in his shirt and drawers.

On Sunday night, at nine o'clock, fifty-two disguised and armed men took him from the jail and started in the direction of Powersville. Duncan slipped away from the party, but was recaptured and finally hanged to a tree a mile and a half from Brookville.

There was great excitement in the place on Monday and it was difficult to procure information.

CHICOT COUNTY OUTRAGES.

Great Uneasiness at Lake Village.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 29, 1871.

General Danforth, the Governor's Adjutant, returned from Chicot county last night. He reports all quiet, but a spirit of uneasiness pervading all classes that the late outrages may be repeated.

It is understood that the Governor will send a detail from his guards to Lake Village to take the place of the Sheriff's posse, and to remain until confidence is restored among the people.

TAMMANY HALL.

MARSHALLING OF THE CLANS.

A Secret Caucus at the Metropolitan Hotel—Plan of Operations Determined Upon—Reform, Regeneration and Renown—Meeting of the General Committee—Resolutions and Nominations of Inspectors.

The Tammany chieftains sounded the trumpet yesterday and summoned the trusty warriors to their side. A terrible war had been waged, and an overwhelming defeat had almost annihilated the marshalled clans, but as the retreating forces scattered and disjointed, were fast disappearing the political clarion with a welkin ring, recalls the solid men to the front. In other words, a caucus of the Tammany committee was held at the Metropolitan Hotel, a delegate from each ward being faithfully represented. Mr. Harry Genet presided, and called the heroes to order with his wonted promptitude. Although the surrounding circumstances were gloomy and the prospects by no means bright, the members of the committee—staunch and true to their tattered colors—were, nevertheless, defiant and warlike. The council was, of course, carried on in private, as, of course, any such grave proceedings should be, but the main object of the gathering was to arrange

THE PLAN OF OPERATION

for the meeting to be held in the evening. Several orations, short, sharp and spicy, were delivered; but it is understood that great unanimity prevailed. After a great deal of discussion it was finally determined that Tammany Hall should be thoroughly reorganized and that all the recreant chiefs who by their actions had tended towards the disgrace of the party in this city, and consequently to its recent defeat, should be completely ostracised, or, like rotten branches, should be cut down and cast into the fire. Having thus amicably agreed to discard all the political delinquents hitherto so prominently associated with the once powerful wigwam, the meeting adjourned.

THE TAMMANY GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The little theatre in Fourteenth street, once occupied by Bryant's Minstrels, was last night crammed to the doors by as motley an assemblage as ever thronged a building. All shades of politicians were represented, from the shrewd and calculating organizer to the threadbare sinecurist three months without his pay. The odor of the cigars was not altogether so delicious as in days of yore, while there was an entire absence of that self-satisfied bearing that was wont to mark the deportment of the fag end wirepullers. William M. Tweed was not present—a fact, by the way, very noticeable by the general character of the proceedings, which were not by any means so smooth as when the "Boss" presented his portly person before the admiring throng and informed those in attendance how the machine was working. The ostensible object of the meeting last night was to nominate inspectors for the primaries, once very important institutions incidental to the main organization. It would appear that a new General Committee will be elected next Thursday, and that then the days of Mr. Tweed's chairmanship must come to an end. The attendance at the meeting last evening included most of the well known heavy weights of the party, from Judge Connolly down. Shortly after eight o'clock Mr. Harry Genet called the meeting to order and nominated Mr. Henry Woltman as temporary chairman. Resolutions were then submitted, the preamble setting forth that, inasmuch as

GRAVE CHARGES OF FRAUD

and corruption in office had been made against prominent leaders of the democratic party of this city through the public press, and the proceedings in our courts were familiar to all; and whereas the organization of Tammany Hall, of which these individuals were members, feels deeply the opprobrium their conduct has brought upon it; and while it regrets they should so far forget the obligations resting upon them in the high positions to which they had been elevated through its power and influence as to bring disgrace upon themselves and defeat upon the democratic party, yet it could not for a moment be considered that the sins and crimes of a few persons connected with it should be allowed to work the destruction of the organization or paralyze its efforts in the future. Under these circumstances it was resolved that in the interests of the democratic party of the city and nation it was deemed necessary that the organization known as Tammany Hall General Committee should continue to be

THE REGULAR DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION

of the city and county of New York. The next resolution set forth that the committee were in favor of thorough reform in the administration of municipal and State affairs, and also of a radical reformation in the federal government, to the end that the rights and benefits designed to be conferred on governmental organizations might be enjoyed by all, while economy and integrity should mark the administration of each department of the same. The resolutions further added that, while they in the strongest terms condemned those who had abused the power of their offices to defraud the city and county, and had thereby imposed increased burdens on the people, the committee called upon all men who had a desire to benefit their fellow citizens to devote their time and energies to stop the sluice gates of fraud and extravagant expenditure. By the final resolution the committee pledged themselves to give all the aid in their power to perfect

A THOROUGH AND RADICAL REFORM

in the administration of the city and county affairs. The resolutions passed unanimously, and there was an appearance of virtuous indignation on every face. Then came the nomination of the inspectors and the places of election. When the Sixth ward was mentioned a brief and spicy debate arose between Messrs. Jones and Keys, who subsequently exchanged the compliments of the season in rather unparliamentary terms. Mr. Jones wanted three different inspectors elected from those handed in, when Mr. Burns came to the rescue, in the course of which he reminded the Chairman of the services he had rendered the party, whether right or wrong. Finally the inspectors first mentioned were accepted. In reference to the inspectors of the Twenty-second ward Judge Connolly had something to say, and called attention to the fact that some of the names presented were forgeries. There were two sets of candidates offered, and after a little racy conversation that having the greater number of names was accepted. The interesting conversation between Messrs. Keys and Jones relative to their respective antecedents was subsequently renewed, the former demanding an explanation of the insinuations made against him. Mr. Harry Genet, however, moved that the committee adjourn *sine die*, and the proceedings came to a harmonious close.

GREAT FIRE IN LITTLE ROCK.

The Losses Estimated at $100,000—List of the Losers and the Insurance on Their Property.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 29, 1871.

The loss by the fire last night is estimated at about one hundred thousand dollars. The following are the losses and insurances, as near as can be ascertained:—Hoanesbrook & Townsend, saloon, loss $15,000, no insurance; Henry Burger, saloon, loss $2,000, insured for $2,500 in the Arkansas Home Company; the *State Journal*, loss $6,000, no insurance; M. H. & D. McGarr, clothiers, loss $18,000; insured in the American Central for $5,000 and the North British for $2,250; Isaac Huyck, livery stable, loss $6,000, no insurance; S. Stevenson & Co., boots, loss $5,000, no insurance; Price & Havecar, painters, loss $8,000, no insurance; R. L. Dodge, damage to building $1,500, insured in the American Central; Davis & Walker, dealers in queensware, who occupied this building, were damaged to the extent of $1,000, insured in the Andes Company; Charles Swann, agent of the Florence Sewing Machine Company, loss small, no insurance; H. Sanberger, dry goods, and clothing; loss $18,000; insured in the Georgia Home Company, $1,500; Franklin, $5,000; Liverpool, London and Globe, $3,000; North Missouri, $1,000. D. P. McAlmont, drugs; loss $18,000; insured in the Hartford, Phœnix and Home companies for $8,000. Dr. W. A. Adams, loss on building $1,500; insured for $2,500 in the Arkansas Home Company; W. S. Hutt, loss on building $15,000; partially insured. The other buildings were of wood, and not very valuable.

The *Journal* made its appearance, as usual, this evening, though in a reduced form. Their power press, engines and fixtures were destroyed. The small presses were saved.

A number of parties occupied offices in various buildings and all lost something.

MORMON LAND.

Destructive Storms Causing Great Distress, Increasing the Cost of Provisions and Stopping All Mining Operations—Brigham Young Reported in Salt Lake City.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 29, 1871.

Tremendous storms have prevailed in the mining districts of the Little and Big Cottonwood. Whole settlements are buried in the snow. More lives have been lost, and there have been innumerable hair-breadth escapes. The snow is from ten to fifty feet deep, and operations in most of the mines have been suspended. The weather here continues a succession of snow, hail and rain storms.

The snow blockade is causing much distress by increasing the prices of necessities. Coal is from $10 to $20 per ton.

Brigham Young is reported to have arrived in the city yesterday, with a portion of his suite.

The Gentile papers are urging a citizens' meeting in opposition to the admission of Utah.

The Masons' festival, on St. John's day, was the grandest success of the kind in Utah.

James E. May, formerly Secretary of State in Oregon, was arrested here on Sunda, on a requisition of the Governor of that State, on a charge of defalcation and taken back to Oregon for trial.

SINK THE TRACK.

The Fourth Avenue Property Owners in Mass Meeting at Terrace Garden.

Enthusiastic Assertion of the Right of the People—The Peril To Be Hidden Below the Surface—Nothing Else Will Do.

Terrace Garden Hall was crowded last evening by the property owners of Yorkville and Harlem, called together under the auspices of the Nineteenth ward Railroad Reform Association, to consider the urgent need of determined action to compel the railroad companies which use the Fourth avenue to sink the tracks far enough below the level of the street not to impede travel and to arch them over. Mr. John McCool presided. Colonel D. R. Jacques, chairman of the Executive Committee, offered the resolutions which follow, prefacing them with earnest remarks, in which he scathingly exposed the action of the Common Council in passing resolutions so different from those reported by the committee which prepared them. All honor was due to His Honor the Mayor for vetoing these resolutions, as they were corruptly passed; but his recommendation that they be sent as a memorial to the Legislature was not so commendable. The hand of the Harlem Railroad Company was written all over these resolutions. The only true remedy for the city was to compel the sinking of the track at the company's expense. This was the plan given in Mr. Prague's report to the Executive Committee, in which he contemplated sinking the whole of the space occupied by the rails in Fourth avenue, making proper provisions for light and ventilation. Mr. Jacques then read

THE RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas the Harlem Railroad Company, the Central and Hudson River Railroad Company and the New York and New Haven Railroad Company have made arrangements for permanently occupying the Fourth avenue for the purpose of running their trains at locomotive rates of speed upon the the level of that avenue and the intersecting streets, and

Whereas such use of the avenue and the streets is attended with incessant and imminent peril to life and limb, is calculated ruinously to depreciate the value of real estate in the vicinity, to hinder and impede its growth and improvement, and to render difficult and dangerous the communication between the east and west sides of the city, and the movement of merchandise as well as the access to the Central Park by the dense population of the eastern wards, and (in the language of the ordinance of the Common Council of December 23, 1831, giving the gratuitous use of the Fourth avenue to the Harlem Railroad Company for thirty years) is an obstruction to the ordinary use "of the avenue, interferes with the use of the cross streets," and prevents the easy and convenient "passage of such cross streets" for all the purposes which such streets are usually put to; and whereas the Harlem Railroad Company by its deed, dated January 9, 1832, solemnly covenanted to so use the privilege thus granted as not to interfere with the Fourth avenue and the streets crossing the same, as thoroughfares, and to keep and observe the condition expressed in such grant, which condition was to the effect, that if the said company failed to find a remedy for any obstruction to the ordinary use of such streets and avenues, the city authorities may, on one month's "notice proceed to remove such railway;" therefore,

Resolved, That the time has come when it becomes the duty of the city to exercise the right thus reserved to enforce this covenant, and to require the companies claiming the gratuitous use of the Fourth avenue and intersecting streets to provide a remedy for the present obstruction to the legitimate use thereof as thoroughfares, and in case they fail to provide such remedy forthwith to cause their tracks to be removed.

Resolved, That, while we recognize the services rendered by these companies, and the benefit they confer, we claim that the primary use for which the streets and avenues are held in fee by the city, and for which they have been bought and paid for by the taxpayers, is as public thoroughfares; that the free use of the same, without peril to life or limb, is paramount to all other purposes whatsoever, and that it is especially incumbent upon wealthy corporations in the enjoyment of lucrative franchises to so exercise the gratuitous privilege they enjoy as not to injure the people whose property they occupy without compensation.

Resolved, That a depressed roadway covered and arched over, and constructed so as not to affect or interfere with the established grade of the avenue and intersecting streets, is the only effectual remedy for the existing evil, which will do justice to the railroad companies and to the people alike; securing at once the legitimate use of the streets, and removing the only obstacle to the growth of the city in the direction towards which the movement of population necessarily tends; while for the companies it secures in the only practicable and permanent manner unimpeded access to the centre of the city; and we approve in its general features the plan embodied in the report submitted to this meeting by John G. Prague, C. E.

Resolved, That we pronounce the resolutions adopted by the Common Council on the 18th and 19th inst., in relation to the Fourth avenue and the use of the same by railroads, an insult to the intelligence of the people of New York, as the scheme they embody would be an usurpation of their rights; and we protest against the suggestion of His Honor the Mayor, that the same are entitled to any consideration as a memorial to the Legislature in any way expressing the sense or the wishes of the people of the city of New York, for the following reasons:—

Because the resolutions were hurriedly passed, without due consideration; the committee which reported the same, after announcing that the importance of the subject required the fullest opportunity for the expression of the views of all citizens interested, having also fixed but one public hearing, and then declining to hold any other meeting, under the pretence that there was no time for further discussion.

Because they release the Harlem Railroad Company from all the conditions contained in the ordinance of December 22, 1831, allowing the use of the avenue by the company, which, by deed of January 9, 1832, it covenanted to observe—conditions requiring it never to interfere with the use of the avenue and cross streets and to make the passage of the streets over the railroad "easy and convenient," and enabling the city to control the rate of speed and to guard against peril to life and limb.

Because they allow the company to enclose by fences, gates and chains the entire area between Forty-second and Forty-ninth streets, Madison avenue, and a line 150 feet east of Fourth avenue.

Because they allow the company to appropriate to its exclusive use, and without compensation, the avenue and streets within the space thus enclosed, the space thus taken, and which may be "roofed over" at the pleasure of the company, being equal in area to about one hundred city lots, of the value of not less than $1,000,000.

Because all the tracks now filling this space are to be allowed to remain and to be used on the level of the street, with no means of passage east and west except by bridges for vehicles at Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh streets, and by foot bridges only at Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth streets.

Because said resolutions, instead of providing a covered roadway, properly arched over and so depressed as not to interfere with the grade and with the use of the avenue, which, from its width and central situation, is capable of being rendered an ornament to the city, as well as a convenient thoroughfare, allow an open roadway to be excavated along the avenue, at no point of depth sufficient to avoid interfering with the grade, requiring bridges of great height, 600 feet long, which, however, are only to be placed at intervals of 800 feet and not at every crossing, so that the city will be cut in two by a ditch fifty feet wide, and more than half the cross streets made useless as thoroughfares.

Because they legalize the present grade of the Fourth avenue, which is several feet higher than the grade established by ordinance.

Because they propose to tax with one-half the expense of this scheme a city which has been the rich source of income to the three railroads now using the Fourth avenue; a city which has generously given to one of them for forty years the use of the avenue (a privilege which it sells to the other two for $500,000 per annum), and which is willing to give additional facilities on the sole condition that the company will so use them as not to make their road a peril to life and a detriment to property.

Because the evil is unendurable, but is remediable, and must be remedied; because the plan proposed furnishes no adequate remedy; is simple, obvious and practicable, namely, a roadway for four tracks, entirely beneath the grade, properly covered and arched over.

Resolved, That the plan we recommend, while affording the railroad companies increased facilities for their business, would restore the Fourth avenue and intersecting streets to their usefulness as thoroughfares, and remove the only obstacle which prevents property in the vicinity from attaining its legitimate value, in view of its central situation and proximity to the Central Park.

Resolved, That we deprecate the necessity of falling back upon that reserved right which common law and common sense guarantee to every citizen in cases of public and private nuisances; and we therefore, appeal to our city and State authorities for protection of our person and property.

Resolved, That we believe our demands just and our position unassailable, and therefore we shall persevere by organized effort in every legitimate way until a successful result is secured.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the Hon. D. F. Tiemann, Hon. W. A. Whitbeck and Hon. S. D. Moulton, with the request that they be laid before the Senate and Assembly at their next session; and we look to them for the exertion of their best efforts to secure such legislation as will protect the rights of the city of New York and the persons and property of its citizens.

JOHN McCOOL, President.

G. W. GLAZE, Vice President.

Executive Committee.—D. R. Jaques, Chairman; Charles E. Simmons, Secretary; Terence Farley, Alfred Conger, Joseph F. McCormack, Robert McCafferty, Jacob Cohen, Kingman F. Page, John Davidson, R. W. Martin, Charles Cornish, Nicholas Pence, Michael Toomey, Terence P. Smith, D. Ackerman, H. Burchell, W. H. Quincy, I. N. Hudson, John Cormack, Henry Grossmeyer, Garret L. Schuyler, John G. Prague.

Mr. M. M. VAIL moved the adoption of the resolutions, and they were unanimously adopted. Major Quincy then addressed the meeting, and was followed by Mr. Sternes, who made a motion to the effect that the Executive Committee should prepare a petition to be submitted to the Legislature, signed by all the property owners on Fourth avenue and to be presented at this session. This was carried with tremendous applause. Colonel Jacques moved that a committee of five be appointed by the President to confer with the committees of the other organizations on the subject of the Fourth avenue grievance. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. WHEELER H. PECKHAM delivered a long speech, in which he recounted an interview had with the officers of the Harlem company. The venerable Commodore Vanderbilt said that he did not oppose the movement in any sense. He was ready to adopt any plan in proposing which all the citizens united and stated to him as practicable by competent engineers. He could not treat in regard to the matter with separate individuals or organizations. It remained for the citizens to concert their efforts. If the companies would not listen to them they would dictate the terms.

Mr. Jacob Cohen was the last speaker, and the meeting then adjourned. Throughout it was most enthusiastic and demonstrative.

VIEWS OF THE PAST.

DECEMBER 30.

1861—The banks of this city, Philadelphia, Albany and Boston, suspended specie payments.

1860—President Buchanan informed the South Carolinian Commissioners that Fort Sumter would not be evacuated but would be defended "against hostile attacks from whatever quarter" they might come.

1857—Canton, China, taken by the British and French forces.

ALEXIS IN DETROIT.

Public Reception by the Municipality.

At the City Hall—Receiving Mineral Mementoes of Michigan—A Lofty View of the City—Accident to His Commissary Manager.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 29, 1871.

The Michiganders have to-day added another chapter to the cordial receptions which the Grand Duke Alexis has received since his arrival in this county. They awarded him a most hearty welcome and one which the guest cannot fail to remember with gratitude and pleasure. The officials of the city and State united in tendering hospitality, and the people were also out in large numbers to add to the thoro