# MARSHAL BAZAINE.

## An Interview in Prison with Napoleon's General-in-Chief.

**His Version of the Defeat at Gravelotte and Surrender of Metz, and His Reply to the Charges Upon Which He Is Arraigned.**

A correspondent of the London *Times* has followed the HERALD's plan by interviewing Marshal Bazaine, at the house in Versailles where he has been in confinement under military guard for nearly year. After describing his cordial reception by a soldierly man of sixty, with deeply furrowed brow and grave aspect, he proceeds:—

The Marshal opened the conversation in a general manner, expressing in very clear language his opinion respecting the diversities of military temperament among the European nations, concluding with the curious remark that the Latin nations were too nervous to profit equally with races of calmer blood by the use of long range weapons, and that for a long time to come, owing to this physiological condition, in accuracy of aim with small arms, the Latin race will be inferior to the Saxon or Slave armies; and in proof of that view he referred to the perfect calmness with which the English infantry took aim before firing even in the midst of battle. The Marshal then stopped, and, turning to me, said, "I have the pleasure of receiving you. In what can I be of service to you?" I replied that my visit was not from simple curiosity, but I feared he might be offended if I ventured to question him respecting some of the rumors which were current, and I added that, not having any other feeling than one of absolute impartiality, I would simply repeat what it might please him to reply, if he would allow me to put a few questions to him. "I am aware," I said, "that is hardly a respectful manner of proceeding, but it is the only one by which a rapid interchange of ideas can be effected, and with the conciseness requisite for their being reproduced." As he consented with great readiness, I asked him, "Is it true that during the battle of Gravelotte you had to be sought for at twenty kilomètres distance from the battle field, and that you were found there playing at billiards?" "In the first place," replied he, "I do not play billiards, and never have played; then again, what was for the Germans the battle of Gravelotte was for us the battle of Amanvilliers. I was from noon a little in the rear of the lines of Amanvilliers, overlooking the battle field, precisely where a General should be, giving orders during the whole time, and preserving my communications with Marshal Canrobert, who was posted at Saint Privat, and had thrown a portion of his troops into Saint Marie-aux-Chenes, and thus I occupied the only position which I could advantageously have taken up. I did not quit that position until the battle was ended, and there was not a single General capable of commanding an army who would venture to suggest that I should have occupied any other. It is not the business of a General-in-Chief to fight sword in hand, and I had experienced that two days before at Rézonville, where, finding some batteries had been abandoned, I rushed forward, sword in hand, and if ten minutes later I had not been extricated by vigorous efforts I should have remained a prisoner in the hands of the Brunswick Hussars." "But, M. le Maréchal, there are some officers who say that during the whole of that day the French army had gained ground, and that, believing it had won a victory, they were greatly surprised in the evening to find that the troops were to retire to their former encampment." "The battle of Amanvilliers or Gravelotte," said the Marshal, "the plan of which I alone had conceived, was never intended by me for an offensive movement. I could never have thought of fighting, with 90,000 men whose pulse I had felt, an army of 250,000 men solidly intrenched. . . . What I wished to do was to ... on a defensive engagement and to destroy as many of the enemy's men as possible, taking care to spare our own; then, after several affairs of that character, I hoped suddenly to force a passage, not, as might be expected, by my line of retreat, but by repassing the Moselle, and, throwing myself briskly into Alsace, to relieve Strasburg and to cover Alsace and Lorraine. Such was the object I had in view. During the engagement at Amanvilliers the regiments simply, therefore, occupied defensive positions which I had marked out for them and at the hours I had prearranged, but they made no advance. One corps only (the Fourth) made a pretended turning movement in order to distract the attention of the enemy, but as to the others they took part in a defensive engagement, which succeeded admirably, and which was for the Germans the most murderous conflict of the whole campaign." "But when you assumed the command you must have had instructions to enable you to act in concert with the other corps, and I am astonished that you should speak of arrangements as peculiarly your own, and which would constitute isolated and independent action." "I had absolutely no instructions. When, on the 12th, I saw our beloved and unfortunate Emperor, I entreated him to give the command to Marshal MacMahon or to Marshal Canrobert, but the Emperor insisted and gave the orders. When I asked him for instructions he said, 'Do your best.' At that moment the position was already very bad and embarrassing. After Reichshoffen and Forbach we had no longer any right wing, and the Germans were able at their leisure to perform their turning movement, which resulted in my being invested. I wrote at that moment to Marshal MacMahon that I should endeavor to retire not upon Verdun, but upon the fortresses of the north. When the Marshal, after some hesitation and after having sought to fall back upon Paris, obeyed the instructions of the Minister of War and quitted Rethel, he believed me to be already in the direction of the fortresses of the north, and he arrived at Sedan. For my own part, who had not the power of joining him, being invested, I had then only to rely upon my own judgment." "Still it is said that a *garde de chasse* named Scalabrino delivered to you personally on the 23d a despatch from General MacMahon, which explained to you the line you should follow and the direction you should take?" The Marshal shrugged his shoulders. "I never received couriers; I never saw Scalabrino nor any *garde de chasse*. I never received any despatch from Marshal MacMahon before the 30th of August. After that day I received many, because it was the interest of the Germans to allow them to pass. The trial will very clearly elucidate that point. No one has ever been brought face to face with me who maintains that he had delivered any despatch from Marshal MacMahon to me before the 30th." "You said just now that you had but 90,000 men to oppose to the German armies, but there were 170,000 men made prisoners." "Yes, I had 170,000 men rationed, but I had only 90,000 fighting men." "There is a transaction which has greatly excited public curiosity, and which is even to-day enveloped in mystery—the affair of Regnier." "Yes, yes," replied the Marshal, after a moment's silence, "and I myself cannot yet explain it. A man was brought to me one day provided with a passport from M. de Bismarck, and who wished to speak with me. He told me that he came from Chiselhurst, and that not daring to bring with him any written papers he had been furnished as a credential with a photograph of Chiselhurst, with a dedication by the Prince Imperial, whose handwriting I recognized; that he came on behalf of the Empress, who asked me to send to her either Marshal Canrobert or General Bourbaki. I naturally thought that there were some negotiations going on between the Regent and M. de Bismarck, and I conceived that I had no right to thwart them nor to be made acquainted with them. I sent for Marshal Canrobert, whom I brought into the presence of M. Regnier, and then I left them. Half an hour afterwards I saw Marshal Canrobert, who declared that he was too old and too fatigued to undertake the journey. I then sent for General Bourbaki and after a few minutes' conversation he came and told me that he was willing to go. He set out, in fact; and from that time I never saw either M. Regnier or General Bourbaki again, and all I know of the business is what I have gathered from the newspapers." We remained silent for a few moments and then I said, "You have been greatly reproached for having been willing to obey the Empress in this matter." "And whom could I obey? The government of the National Defence had never placed itself in communication with me and I knew nothing of it. I was cut off from the world, and, only having rumors to inform me of what was going on, for me the Empress-Regent was still Regent." "You are also blamed for not having burned the eagles." "But I had given a pressing order to that effect to General Soleil, as well as to General Tarras, Chief of the Staff; they thought, perhaps, that they might wait a little longer, and then it was too late." "I hardly dare to ask you, M. Le Maréchal, whether it is true that you dined with Prince Frederick Charles before the surrender of Metz." "Oh, you may ask me anything. I should prefer that those who talk about me should do as you are doing. This is what must have given rise to that report; on the 28th I was at Corney with my officers. It was raining; we were all wet through. The Prince was absent; I wished to wait for him. As we were fatigued and harassed we were offered a basin of broth. I moistened my lips in order not to refuse; I do not know whether my officers did as much as that; and two days afterwards it was asserted that I had been present at a grand dinner given by the General-in-Chief of the enemy's army." "But when Metz had been surrendered is it true that there was found there an abundance of provisions, while the day previous people were perishing from hunger?" "The official inquiry attests that there was found in the magazines one day's supply of rations at 300 grammes, and that some of the inhabitants who had laid in stores brought them out, finding that the siege was at an end. But we had made perquisitions everywhere without being able to find anything, so well were all those things concealed. Besides, what interest could I have in doing what is suggested?" "It is said," I replied hesitatingly, "that you thought of declaring Alsace and Lorraine a neutral duchy and of becoming its Duke, and that M. de Bismarck had held out that prospect to you." The Marshal broke out into a laugh. "Neither M. de Bismarck nor Prince Frederick Charles," said he, "thought me simple enough for that. Besides, if Alsace and Lorraine were to be made into duchies or principalities, it is not to me that M. de Bismarck would have offered them; he had a candidate ready prepared, without having to think of me. But all sorts of fabulous statements have been made about me. When I returned from Mexico I was said to be possessed of enormous wealth. The truth is that I had not a sou, but rather I had debts. The poor Emperor Maximilian had given me the Villa of Benavista, which I was about to exchange for 100,000 piastres. I did not demand the money, and Juarez confiscated the villa. Madame la Maréchale, my wife, has no fortune, and will some day, perhaps, have sixteen thousand pounds or twenty thousand pounds sterling; and here are the whole of my riches," said he on quitting the room, pointing to his three children playing on the lawn, who are allowed to be with him from ten till four. He signed to me to follow him, and we walked together on to the lawn, at the end of which a sentry paced up and down. The Marshal turned away his head every time we came near that point. I resumed the conversation. "Just now, in speaking of the Emperor Napoleon, you said, 'Our dear and unfortunate Emperor.' How does it happen that the Bonapartists are against you?" "*Mon Dieu!*" said he, "those are jealousies of old standing, dated back to the time of my greatest prosperity. And then, when in Mexico, I was reproached with not having obeyed the instructions brought by General Castelnau, which directed me to require the Emperor Maximilian to abdicate and to bring him back with me. But how could I have conformed to such instructions, even if I had wished to do so? He was Emperor; and when I spoke to him about abdicating he explained that he would rather die a thousand times than appear like a soldier who flung away his sword in the midst of battle. However, when I left Mexico to embark at Vera Cruz, I sent word to him that I had still troops sufficient to enable me to hold out a hand to him, and take him away with me, but he decidedly refused. It is also asserted that at Metz I sought to separate myself from the Regent Empress; but, although they have never been able to produce evidence at all to prove it, they persist in the story all the same." "It is possible," I remarked, "that a decree of *non lieu*—of insufficient grounds for trial—may be pronounced in your case." "I do not know what will be done. I have complete confidence in the integrity (*loyauté*) of M. Thiers. I am resigned to everything." "But if the trial goes on you will have to defend yourself?" "Oh, certainly," exclaimed the Marshal, with vivacity. "I wish to leave to my children an unsullied name. The public must know what materials I had to deal with, and how far I am responsible for what happened. The truth must be known." "Why have the officers called upon you to plead?" I know nothing about it. When it was sought to read the depositions to me I refused, and desired that they might be handed to my counsel, M. Lachaud. If the the trial goes on I shall have time to read them, and if it does not go on I do not care to know the names of those who have given evidence against me. "But come," added he, "I want to show you my bedroom, for I do not wish it to be said that I am worse treated than I really am." He showed me his bedroom, which was really a tolerably good room, with a carpet, a table, piano, a mahogany bedstead and a few chairs. Between the bedroom and the dressing room was a small *salle-à-manger*. The study where the Marshal writes is rather bare of furniture, and the carpet is somewhat ragged. Upon the whole, the house, although slightly damp, is not uncomfortable, and the Marshal makes no complaint of it, although for a man of forty years' military service, of many campaigns, and five wounds, the residence is hardly a healthy one.

# THE GERMAN REFORMERS.

**The Republican Charter Not Wanted by Them—A Gubernatorial Commission Called For to Prepare a Charter Bill.**

The Central Committee of the German Reform organizations of this city, which originated during the reform campaign of 1871, held a meeting at the Beethoven Maennerchor Hall last night, when, in the absence of Henry Clausen, the President, Oscar Zollikoffer occupied the chair. After a lengthy debate on a report of the Committee of Organization on contested delegations, from several Assembly districts, resolutions in reference to

THE CITY CHARTER AMENDMENTS

were introduced by Oswald Ottendorfer, which, after a brief discussion, were adopted, declaring that they believe it to be almost impossible to insure a thorough reform in the administration of our municipal affairs by means of a charter, which, in substance, is merely a law enacted by the Legislature, that may be annulled in its main provisions by

OTHER LAWS SMUGGLED THROUGH

the same body under other names and titles, as has often been the case, and to which circumstance the origin of many of the abuses in the administration of our municipal affairs may be traced. Further, that, in order to avoid in the future the evils resulting from such course, it be recommended that the Governors be authorized by the Legislature to appoint a Board of Commissioners, who should prepare and draft a charter for the city of New York, to be

SUBMITTED TO THE VOTE OF THE PEOPLE

for approval and to the Legislature for confirmation; that no laws in reference to the city may be passed not called for by the people or by the representatives in the Common Council.

It is further argued in the resolutions referred to that the city charter as pending before the Legislature is a partisan charter, intended to create a new "Ring" to succeed the Tammany Ring. The contemplated removal of Comptroller Green is characterized as a partisan measure, originating from corrupt motives.

# A CIRCULAR FROM THE COMPTROLLER.

The following important circular was forwarded to each of the departments of the city government yesterday by Comptroller Green:—

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, NEW YORK, March 31, 1873.

TO THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT:—

The greater part of the mass of the arrearages found in this department when the undersigned entered it has been disposed of; there still, however, remain unadjusted many complicated claims of years prior to 1871, for the payment of which no means have yet been provided. A bill for that purpose is now before the Legislature.

The Courts have from time to time of late so interpreted various laws affecting the relations of the Finance Department with the other departments of the city as to greatly increase its labors and at the same time to afford valuable aid toward systematizing the work of examining the city accounts and disbursing the city moneys.

The careful identification and payment of, and the taking proper receipts from thousands of employes, scattered from the Battery to Croton Lake, a distance of more than forty miles, is a work of great detail and responsibility. Instead of bringing them to the Comptroller's office to be paid, as was formerly the case, each man is paid on or near the work where he is engaged—laborers fortnightly and other employes generally monthly. To this work is to be added that of the scrutiny of bills for labor and supplies to the various officers and departments. At no time in the history of the Finance Department has the volume of its transactions been much over one-third of what has been for the past year, and the business has been done with two-thirds of the amount of clerical force employed in the Department when the undersigned entered it. The number of warrants issued last year was 27,407. The total payments in the same year were $29,003,469 37; of which there were paid to laborers, directly from this Department, nearly two millions of dollars.

For months past current bills have been audited and paid within an average period of ten days from their presentation at this department.

Merchants frequently apply for the payment of bills, which, on inquiry, they find have never been sent to this office by the department whose duty it is to certify and transmit them. Warrants for bills have lain sometimes for weeks waiting for parties to call for them.

Hereafter, excepting in cases of intricacy and difficulty, current claims for supplies and materials will be examined, and, if correct, paid within six days after their presentation properly certified.

It is well known that those who have of late years furnished supplies for the city were too often of a class created by the officials who dealt with them. Obstacles were thrown in the way of payments to facilitate the operations of a class of go-betweens, who defrauded the city and divided with the officials; and reputable merchants were frequently unwilling to deal with the city.

The advantages of restoring to honorable dealers the trade of the city are mutual and quite apparent. It is the intention of the Finance Department that the change in this respect that has been commenced shall be encouraged and established. It can only be accomplished by the co-operation of the departments to this end.

No gifts, percentages, divisions, deductions or advantages whatever should be allowed to the personal benefit of any purchasing agent or employe of the city government, and every practice other than straight forward, fair dealing will be discouraged and no efforts spared to defeat its object.

A violation of this fundamental rule by any employe of the Finance Department will result in immediate dismissal and punishment.

It has taken eighteen months to get rid of the accumulations of five years of fraud and jobbery; the labor it has cost will never be appreciated.

There will be no relaxation in the scrutiny of claims, and current bills that are on examination found illegal in character or excessive in price will in ordinary cases be returned to the department from which they originated, with a statement of the reasons therefor.

The department incurring the bill will thus have an opportunity to consider the objections and to discuss them with the claimants directly. This will relieve the Finance Department of the necessity of intervening in the first instance between the merchant and the department that has incurred the bill, and leave it to that department to reconsider the bill, and to this department, with such corrections as the circumstances warrant.

The undersigned has been too long connected with public works not to understand the importance to contractors of the prompt receipt of money due them, in order to enable them to meet their engagements with their men. To insure this it is essential that the contract under which the payment is demanded be lawful and free from doubts and suspicion. Where a contract is loose, illegal or of doubtful character the department making it is responsible for delays in payment.

The aim of this Department will be, by promptness of payment to contractors and others, to render unnecessary the practice, which has long existed to a great extent, of assigning claims at exorbitant discounts to brokers and others.

Rolls other than those of laborers will be paid monthly, and generally within the first three days of the month.

They should be sent in on or as soon after the 1st of each calendar month as they can be properly made up.

The practice of making up and certifying rolls for the month before it has expired is not approved.

Every name on the roll should be written in full, and not abbreviated.

Rolls should be certified by the chief official of the office or Department, personally, and not by another.

Laborers' rolls will continue to be paid on or near the site of the work every two weeks.

Departments are requested to send in their bills promptly and not delay them, as is frequently the case, until a great number is accumulated.

To insure uniformity and system forms of rolls and certifications of bills will be furnished on application at this department.

This circular is issued with a view of facilitating the public business and of securing the prompt payment of public creditors. Its suggestions are general, and will not be construed to interfere with whatever measures may be necessary to insure the most thorough scrutiny of all claims and accounts. If properly carried out they will result in economy in the expenditure of public moneys and the orderly and systematic transaction of the public business.

To that end the co-operation of all officers and departments of the government is respectfully invited.

ANDREW H. GREEN, Comptroller.

# THURLOW WEED ON THE CITY CHARTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Nearly five years ago I was constrained by impaired health to close my business and political labors, since which time I have sought the repose which ill health and the infirmities of age seem to require. Conscious that I could not do much good, I have endeavored to do as little evil as possible. I have been especially desirous of avoiding all just cause of offence. It is difficult, however, to remain in the world without being of it. I could not, if I would, discipline myself into indifference to the welfare of my country or insensibility to the misfortunes of my race.

To the misapprehensions of several city journals during the present session of the Legislature in relation to my alleged interference with the charter controversy, I have not deemed it necessary to reply. But the gratuitous, unjust and persistent misrepresentations and aspersions of the *Times*, designed and calculated to place me in a false position before the Legislature, demand attention.

I had no knowledge of or concern with the charter until it was reported in the Assembly. Nor did I in any way or manner interfere with its passage through that House. I am not in the slightest degree responsible for any differences that exist between the Assembly and the Senate nor for any collisions of opinion between Senators. Nor did I inspire or suggest any amendments offered in either House. I have written to no member of the Legislature on the subject of the charter. Senators Adams, of Albany, and Wood, of Livingston, and Assemblymen Blackie and Clark, of this city and those only, called at my house and conversed with me on the subject of the charter. I have also conversed with ex-Governor Morgan, Governor Dix and Mayor Havemeyer on the subject. In view of all the modes of appointments proposed and discussed in and out of the Legislature, I came to the conclusion that capable and honest heads of departments who are now discharging their duties faithfully should be allowed to serve out their terms, and that the general power of appointment should be given to the Mayor, subject to the approval of the Board of Aldermen. Such is my present opinion—an opinion which, though expressed when appealed to, has been obtruded upon no one. Early in the session, in conversation with Thomas C. Acton and John A. Kennedy, I expressed a decided preference for a Metropolitan Police law conferring upon the Governor the appointment of Commissioners.

Such, in substance, is my exact position in reference to the Charter question. I have had no purpose, wish or thought in that connection but to aid, so far as I could, in re-establishing good government for our city. If by carefully avoiding all interference with legislation; if by doing, saying and thinking in reference to the charter nothing inconsistent with good government for our city or hostile to the rights and interests of its inhabitants, there is anything worthy of stripes, I will patiently submit to chastisement. Meantime I beg through your columns to refer the question to the judgment of an impartial tribunal. T. W.

NEW YORK, April 4, 1873.

# THE PERIL OF OUR ROTTEN PIERS.

**A Pile of Lead Crashes Through a Wharf and Three Men Are Precipitated Below—Two of Them Saved by Sailors and the Other Saves Himself.**

Last evening, shortly before six, an ominous cracking was heard near the extreme end of pier No. 7 East River, situated at Coenties slip, and a few moments later 622 bars of lead, weighing about six tons, had disappeared from sight, carrying with them into the water an Irish laborer named James Mulvy, who had a bar of lead on his shoulder. An old watchman named Pelsey, belonging to the Merchants' Police Association, next fell through the rotten wharf, while a second watchman, named George Taylor, attached to the brig Argo, of Halifax, also disappeared from sight; but the latter miraculously managed to clamber up from the débris of timber which was floating below the wharf. A line was given to a sailor on board the Argo, which vessel had just discharged the load, and he boldly let himself down and saved the laborer, after great difficulty and with much peril. Lying abreast, at the end of the wharf was the New York brig Daisy, which had arrived but a few minutes before from Messina. Her second mate, Mr. Nash, hearing the alarm, let himself down into the hole, and managed to save from drowning Pelsey, the old watchman, who was found to be uninjured, though greatly stunned by his fall upon the slippery spiles. Mulvy, the laborer, who is employed in the United States Weigher's Department, when brought to the surface was found to be much bruised and wounded. He stated, curiously enough, that "he could not let go of the lead" when he was going down, thinking, perhaps, it would keep him afloat. He was removed in the ambulance to the Park Hospital, but was subsequently, at his own wish, taken to his home at 199 Mulberry street. The watchmen at the dock last night all concurred in stating that it is in a most dilapidated and dangerous condition. The hole where he had broken through his about fourteen feet square. Another large pile of lead is on the brink and may go through any minute. A similar accident occurred in 1850, when a pier gave way, and many teams were thrown into the river and a woman sitting on the pier lost her life.

# REDS ON THE WARPATH.

**Another Surveying Party Attacked—Several Men Killed—A Call for Protection.**

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4, 1873.

The Interior Department to-day was officially advised by telegraph of the murder of a surveyor by a party of forty or fifty Indians, calling themselves Cheyennes, while in camp twenty miles east of Camp Supply. One man was wounded and the camp destroyed. On the 19th of March four surveyors of another party were murdered fifty miles further north, where the Camaron River crosses the Kansas boundary.

Robert Martin, a messenger, has been missing since March 7.

Surveyor Barrett, who sends the telegram, asks, "Will the government protect us?"

Mr. Risley, agent for the Indians at the Whitestone Agency, reports, under date of the 3d inst., from Fort Laramie, that D. R. Rogers, United States mail carrier, was killed by Indians on the 31st ult. while carrying the mail from the said agency to Laramie.

# AN IMPORTANT TRIAL.

PHILADELPHIA, April 4, 1873.

In the case of Daniel Scull vs. The Kensington National Bank, in which the jury rendered a verdict allowing $37,000 for the plaintiff for the loss of his bonds by the robbery of the bank in February, 1869. Judge Williams this morning set aside the verdict and ordered a new trial.

# WEST VIRGINIA.

**The "Capital" Question Again Tabled in the Legislature.**

CHARLESTOWN, April 4, 1873.

The West Virginia Legislature will adjourn on Monday next, to meet again on October 20. The bill to remove the capital to Wheeling was laid on the table.

# ALLEGED CRUEL CONDUCT.

**A Woman in a Delicate Condition Turned Into the Street—She Dies at Bellevue.**

Coroner Kessler was yesterday called to the Morgue to hold an inquest over the remains of Mrs. Mary Thomas, a woman only nineteen years of age, who died in Bellevue Hospital the day previous. Mrs. Thomas, who had been compelled to leave her husband in consequence of his intemperate habits, obtained employment as a book folder and secured lodgings at St. Mark's place, but, being in a delicate situation, the woman in charge, it is alleged, ejected her, and, no alternative being left, she took refuge in Bellevue Hospital, where death ensued, as stated. The matter will be thoroughly investigated.

# SUICIDE BY HANGING.

George Rickett, a disconsolate German, sixty-six years of age, who had become tired of life, hung himself in his basement room of premises 416 West Thirty-seventh street, late on Thursday afternoon. The body was cut down by Sergeant Buddington, of the Twentieth precinct. Coroner Kessler was notified to hold an inquest on the body.

# ARMY ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, April 4, 1873.

First Lieutenant James Sladen, Fourteenth Infanty, aide-de-camp to General Howard, has been ordered to report to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for duty in connection with the Indian service.

Captains C. L. Tripler, Twenty-first infantry, and V. M. Silva, Twenty-first infantry, have resigned.

# FAREWELL, HOBOKEN.

## Union with Jersey City for Better for Worse.

**To Be or Not To Be—The Bill Consolidating the Two Cities—Next Tuesday's Election to Determine the Question—Why This Measure Was Resorted To.**

It is not the Free Railroad bill, nor Tom Scott's warfare nor local option that troubles the people of the thriving city of Hoboken just now, but chiefly and above comes the important question, To be or not to be? In other words whether after next Tuesday, the day fixed for the charter election, Hoboken as a separate municipality shall cease to exist. The ring of small fry corrupt politicians that have been preying upon it, retarding rather than promoting improvements, will go into mourning and there will be wailing and weeping among the retainers of that oldest of New Jersey monopolies—the Hoboken Land and Improvement Company—if the consolidation shall take effect. The question in one aspect is one of emancipation from the relentless power of this monopoly. In another it assumes the phase whether Hoboken shall remain a mere pocket borough or rise to the dignity of a city that owns no master and will not be left behind in the march of improvement.

These were the questions that prompted the introduction of the bill by Mr. Lee, the member from Hoboken. It may interest others besides the people of Hoboken to know under what circumstances the bill was introduced. Mr. Lee introduced a bill for the restoration to Hoboken of the most valuable portion of her territory—the water front—wrested from it under the name of the township of Weehawken by the Hoboken Land and Improvement Company. The continuance of such injustice would not be tolerated in many cities of the Union. The bill was a most righteous one, yet the monopoly would not relinquish its grasp on the ill-gotten property and the bill was defeated. Tom Scott's vassals in the Assembly came to the aid of what was known in both houses as monopoly No. 2, and trampled under foot the rights of the people of Hoboken. Lee was not discouraged, however. Patterson, Letson, Gaede, Cavileer and other stanch opponents of monopoly encouraged him, and on a vote to reconsider the bill lacked just one vote. Another bill was drawn up, but after lingering a few days it showed symptoms of marasmus and withered away. Lee, thus baffled at every point by the power of Mammon in the lobby, then executed a flank movement. His ultimatum to the monopoly was "Restoration of stolen property or annexation to Jersey City." This is the history of the case in brief. The bill has passed both Houses, and will certainly be signed by the Governor. There will be an overwhelming majority in Jersey City in favor of consolidation. What will the people of Hoboken say on election day? The whole power, influence and money of the monopoly will be employed at the polls to defeat consolidation, but there is every prospect that the people will remain firm to the cause which had so able an expounder in Lee.

The following is the bill in full:—

Whereas it appears to be the desire of the people of Jersey City and of the city of Hoboken to have said cities consolidated and form one city; and whereas it is reasonable and proper that the popular will should be complied with; therefore

1. Be it enacted, by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, That Jersey City shall hereafter consist not only of the territory hitherto comprised within its limits, but in addition also the territory now comprised within the limits of said city of Hoboken.

2. And be it enacted, That all persons resident within the said limits of the said cities of Jersey City and Hoboken, as hitherto existing, shall hereafter constitute a body politic and corporate, to be known as "The Mayor and Aldermen of Jersey City."

3. And be it enacted, That all property and rights, whether in possession, in expectancy or in action, now belonging to the Mayor and Council of the city of Hoboken, or to the different departments of said city government, or to the inhabitants of said city as a body politic and corporate, are hereby transmitted to the Mayor and Aldermen of Jersey City, and all liabilities for trusts or contracts now existing against the Mayor and Council of the city of Hoboken, or the said body politic and corporate, shall hereafter exist with the same effect against the Mayor and Aldermen of Jersey City, and all suits or proceedings against or in behalf of the Mayor and Council of the city of Hoboken aforesaid, or the said body politic and corporate, shall proceed against or in behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of Jersey City, in the same manner and with the same effect as they would against or in behalf of the original party in case the union had not been passed.

4. And be it enacted, That the territory hitherto composing the said city of Hoboken shall hereafter compose and be known as the Seventh Aldermanic district of Jersey City, and the act to which this is a supplement and all the supplements of said act are hereby extended to said territory and the inhabitants thereof with the same force and effect as said act and supplements have in any other district of Jersey City.

5. And be it enacted, That all ordinances of the Mayor and Common Council of Jersey City, as at present incorporated, or other ordinances now in force in the city of Hoboken that may be applicable to the consolidated city shall be in force until altered or repealed by the proper board of the city government of Jersey City.

6. And be it enacted, That said Seventh Aldermanic district shall be entitled to the same number of Aldermen, members of the Board of Education and constables that are, by the act to which this is a supplement, now allowed to the other aldermanic districts of Jersey City, and said Seventh district shall be entitled to the same number of Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for taking the acknowledgment and proof of deeds that the city of Hoboken is now entitled to, and the present Justices and Commissioners for taking the acknowledgment and proof of deeds shall continue in office for the residue of their terms respectively.

7. And be it enacted, That at the charter elections of said cities of Hoboken and Jersey City respectively, to be holden in the month of April, in the year 1873, at the same time and place as the election for the officers of the respective cities shall be holden and under the direction of the same Judges of Election, the electors entitled to vote in either city for city officers shall express their assent or refusal of this act by having at the foot of the ballots which they shall vote, either written or printed thereon, the words "for consolidation," or the words "against consolidation;" and a canvass and return of the votes shall be made by the said judges respectively to the director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Hudson county within the same time and in the same manner as the Judges of Election are required to report in county elections, and the said Director shall cause the said Board of Chosen Freeholders to be convened to consider said returns, and after due consideration of said returns the same are to be published in the official newspapers of said cities.

8. And be it enacted that if in each of said cities the number of ballots deposited as aforesaid "for consolidation" shall be greater than the number of ballots deposited "against consolidation" then this act shall go into effect and operation on the third Tuesday thereafter.

9. And be it enacted, That if a majority of the ballots voted as aforesaid contain the words "against consolidation" then said cities may reconsider their vote at any subsequent election, of which time and place the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county of Hudson shall give at least one week's previous notice in all the newspapers printed and published in both of said cities; and, if at such last election, said cities shall vote by a majority of electors voting at such election "for consolidation," then this act shall go into effect and operation on the third Tuesday thereafter.

10. And be it enacted that on the day when this act goes into effect and operation the terms of office of the charter officers of the city of Hoboken and other officers of the government of said city, except as herein otherwise provided for, shall cease.

11. And be it enacted that on the day this act shall go into effect the members of the Board of Councilmen of said city of Hoboken shall by lot choose two of their number as members of the Board of Aldermen of Jersey City, and they shall represent said Seventh Aldermanic district until the next ensuing charter election, when their successors shall be elected in the manner designated in the act to which this is a supplement; and the terms of office of the members of the Board of Councilmen of said city of Hoboken, with the exception of the two chosen as aforesaid, shall cease on the day fixed for this act to go into operation.

12. And be it enacted, That said Seventh Aldermanic district, for general purposes not provided for in this act, shall be considered a township, and shall be entitled to elect three members of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Hudson county, provided that the members of said Board from the city of Hoboken, who shall be in office at the time this act goes into effect, shall continue in office until the next succeeding charter election.

13. And be it enacted that on the day when this act shall go into effect, as hereinbefore provided, the Mayor and Council of the city of Hoboken and the heads of the different departments of the city government of said city shall deliver over to the appropriate board of the city of Jersey City all property, books and papers in their or his possession or control belonging to the Mayor and Council of the city of Hoboken, or the said body politic and corporate; and for neglect or refusal so to do, the person or persons so offending shall forfeit and pay to the city of Jersey City the sum of one thousand dollars, to be sued for and recovered with costs.

14. And be it enacted that all acts and parts of acts heretofore passed, so far as the same are inconsistent with this act, be and the same are hereby repealed, and this act shall be deemed a public act.

# THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

**Meeting of the Board of Managers—Grants of Books—Revision of the Arabo-Turkish Testament.**

The stated meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society was held at the Bible House, Astor place, at half past three o'clock P. M., Dr. W. H. Allen, President, in the chair. Three new auxiliaries were recognized—in North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida, one each. Grants of books were made to the American Missionary Association, the New York Female Bible Society, to the American Sunday School Union; to American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, books in the Zulu language for Africa; besides many of smaller amount, especially to feeble auxiliaries. The entire number of volumes granted is 22,745, of which 5,380 were for foreign countries. Besides these, $4,346 was appropriated in funds, of which $2,800 was for the foreign work. It was voted to concur with the British and Foreign Bible Society in the revision and republication of the Arabo-Turkish Testament in Constantinople, and also in printing the Pentateuch in the same language, translated by Dr. Schaeffler.

# JERSEY'S CREDIT MOBILIER.

**A Day of Retribution for Corrupt Legislators—Arrest of a Tom Scott Senator on the Charge of Taking a Bribe—Startling Developments Expected—The Men Who Sold Out Their Constituents to Receive No Quarter.**

When the HERALD a few weeks ago announced that the Senators who voted for Tom Scott on Assembly bill No. 3 would find themselves, at no distant day, in a very uncomfortable predicament, the recreant legislators did not appreciate the grave import of that announcement. The invasion of the halls of legislation by Tom Scott, and the bargain and sale that followed, are likely to be commemorated in history as Credit Mobilier No. 2. On the eventful day when No. 3 was killed in the Senate all eyes were directed toward the Senators who voted against it, and cries of vengeance were poured on their devoted heads. Mr. Letson gnashed his teeth as he muttered in low tones to the HERALD representative, "Well, a day of reckoning will come for this." Patterson overheard the remark and added, "That's so, for the tories of the revolution were respectable compared with those fellows."

It was rumored throughout Trenton that the price of one Senator's vote was $30,000, while another, the man in the gap, waiting to hear from either side, during the previous night placed his services at a figure higher by $5,000 and received his pay. Still the friends of the people's railroad bided their time, and it was not till the gavel fell yesterday, announcing that the Legislature had adjourned *sine die*, that they swooped down upon their quarry.

The transaction which culminated in a sensation that will stir the pulse of the State as it has not been stirred for a long time is as follows:—A couple of weeks ago three men went into a justice of the peace's office in Trenton and requested him to witness an affidavit which they were about to make. They would not disclose its character nor the names of the parties concerned. The Justice, on being paid his legal fee, assented. This strange proceeding somewhat surprised that functionary, and, notwithstanding he made every inquiry concerning the secrecy of the matter, he was left in oblivion. Nothing was heard of it since that time until yesterday, when, immediately after the adjournment of the Legislature, a sensation was created by the sudden arrest of Henry Caleb Sheppard, Senator from Cumberland county, on a warrant issued on the affidavit of Joseph Shaeffer, setting forth the following:—"That Caleb Henry Sheppard, a member of the Senate of the Legislature of 1873, was guilty of taking, receiving and accepting the sum of $2,500 (twenty-five hundred), on or about February 27, as a reward, gift and gratuity for giving his vote as a member of said Legislature for said year 1873 in favor of Assembly bill No. 3.

It is well known that Sheppard did not vote for No. 3, and hence the issuing of the warrant for his arrest and breach of faith. This Shaeffer is from Sussex county, and is acting on the part of Mr. Buckout, one of the principal promoters of the National Railroad. General Sewell appeared at the Justice's office and helped to console the accused Senator in his hour of trouble. General Perrine appeared also and signed a bail bond to the amount of $2,000, for Sheppard's appearance at the next Court of Oyer and Terminer in Mercer county. Messrs. E. T. Green, of Trenton, and Samuel Gray, of Camden, presented themselves as counsel for the accused and waived an examination.

Reliable rumors are afloat that this case is only the commencement of a number of others of greater magnitude which will be brought to light in a few days. It was remarkable to see the precipitate flight out of Trenton after the adjournment took place of nearly all the Tom Scott Senators. Developments of a most startling and sensational character are expected to be made public at no distant day.

Other affidavits are being prepared, but it is deemed advisable to withhold them from publication for the present. Statements were made by members of both houses yesterday that reveal an alarming spread of corruption.

# HORSE NOTES.

**Death of the Race Horse Lightning.**

[From the Turf, Field and Farm, April 4.]

This celebrated sire died Sunday, March 30, at the Walnut Hill Stud Farm, Mr. James A. Grinstead, near Lexington, Ky. Lightning, gray, foaled 1857, by Lexington, out of Blue Bonnet, by imported Hedgeford, her dam Grey Fanny (Grey Medoc's dam), by Bertrand, out of a mare by imported Buzzard, &c. He was bred by Messrs. Boyden & Chinn and purchased by Mr. Henry B. Foley in his three-year-old form, who raced him with marked success under the management of Dr. J. W. Weldon. He was subsequently purchased by Messrs. Grinstead & Clark of H. B. Foley, and belonged to them at the time of his death. He did not appear on the turf as a two-year-old, but began his racing career in the Fall of 1860, when he won the Produce Stake for three-year-olds at Lexington at four heats, winning the second and fourth heats; Idlewild won the first heat and Sherrod the second. Jack the Barber, Colton, and a chestnut colt by imported Glencoe, out of Maid of Orleans, and a Vandal filly out of Dick Doty's dam ran in the race also. The track was deep in mud and the time slow—1:58½, 1:58¾, 2:02, 2:15½. He was distanced in a sweepstakes for three-year-olds at Louisville, Ky., won by Bettie Ward in 1:50, 1:48½. He walked over for a sweepstakes at Natchez the same Fall. In 1861 he won a sweepstakes at New Orleans, two-mile heats, in 3:48¾, 3:55½, beating Wellswood, Sherrod and a Brown Dick colt. Same meeting he ran second to Panic, three-mile heats, in 5:32¼, 5:35½. Exchequer and Neil Robinson started also. Same meeting he beat Planet and Panic, four miles in the mud, in 8:02, 8:13½. During the Winter meeting