STATE POLITICS.

The Effects of Public Opinion on the Twenty-Ninth and Thirtieth Senatorial Districts.

General "Jim" Wood, of Erie Railroad Fame, and George Bowen Thrown Overboard by the Republicans.

A New Departure at Last in Alleghany, Wyoming, Livingston, Niagara, Genesee and Orleans Counties.

What the Republicans Think of the Outcry Against "the Five Tweed Senators."

Why the Renomination Dodge of 1871 Was Not Repeated.

The Six Counties to Send Seven Republicans to the Assembly.

ATTICA, Wyoming County, Oct. 22, 1873.

The hopes and aspirations of those virtuous democrats who have done so much during the past three years to foment trouble and engender heart burnings among the stanch adherents of that portion of the party of great moral ideas which moves and has its prosperous being within the confines of the Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Senatorial districts, by their untinted denunciations of the corrupt men the people of these same districts have persisted in foisting upon the State Senate as their proper representatives, have been at last gratified; for the nomination of a republican candidate for Senator has been made in each, and George Bowen and General James Wood are not the men selected. Yet, if the democrats of these two districts are really happy over the fact, I am seriously at a loss to find out in what manner they generally express their feelings when they feel particularly elevated over a good thing. Indeed, I half incline to the belief that after all they would have preferred this year that both Bowen and Wood should have again been put in the field. True, this would not be consistent with their loud-mouthed professions of reform and their denunciations of the past; but then consistency, we all know, is a jewel of very small value in politics. Had those two men been renominated the democrats would have, as of old, good ground to work upon during the campaign, and they might easily have turned the tide, if not altogether in their favor, in the districts most concerned, at least have so wrought upon the reform feelings of the republicans outside of the districts during the campaign as to force them on election day to cast their votes against the party that dared to approve of the nomination of men whose names have been

A HISSING AND A BY WORD

with every democratic paper in the State since 1870. It is true that three candidates, whose reputations have been seriously questioned in common with that of Bowen and that of Wood, have been renominated in three other districts for the Senate by the republicans, thus leaving the democrats ample occasion for their old style of attack; but as I will have something to say about them in a future letter I will now confine myself to dealing with Bowen and Wood's districts exclusively. I have travelled through them both, mingled freely with men of both parties in the two districts and therefore am able to speak as to the "prospects" by the card. It will be borne in mind that Bowen and Wood were members of that notorious band of five Senators borne into the Senate of 1870 and destined never to be forgotten afterward in the political estimation of the democracy who believe that to the pure minded all things are not always pure. Rightfully or wrongfully—I will not stop here to argue the question one way or the other—these two men, ever since Tweed got his famous charter through the Senate, have been considered, as were Lewis and Winslow and Woodin, fit targets for every good democrat to have his fling at, in and out of place.

THE HUE AND CRY

in 1871 was taken up even by some of the republicans, and yet in that very year, when the reform movement swept over the State like a whirlwind, tearing up root and branch everything rotten in the democratic camp, it carried into the Senate by larger majorities than even those five suspected men who went into the campaign on the very issues their enemies had dragged up against them. There is probably nothing in the political annals of this State, which presents so many phases of mystery, as that which seems to surround this band of brothers. The charges made against four of them have only been made by assertion without positive proof, and, notwithstanding the investigations that have been started from time to time by legislative committees into various questionable transactions that apparently concerned them not, yet which were set on foot indirectly to get evidence against them, not a particle of positive proof has ever been dragged to light fixing upon any one of the four of them the crime of corruption in office; and yet, in the face of it all, I do not believe there can be found one man in five, even among the republicans in their own districts, who does not believe that the suspicion which attaches to their names is justly founded. The strangest part of the whole thing is that but one of the five has ever taken a step to refute the charges so openly made in the newspapers, and we all know how he came out of the investigation. The other four have stood up boldly against the accusations made against them, and have time and again met assertion without positive proof with assertion alone, and upon that alone have they been content to let their reputation rest. I was painfully struck with the cool way in which the charges are treated by some of the republicans in the two districts I have especially referred to.

REPUBLICAN IDEAS OF REFORM.

Meet one of them on the street and ask him what he thinks about them, and, ten to one, if he is in a talking mood, he will frankly tell you that he thinks there is something in them, but "it's too late now making a fuss about the matter." I met a gentleman in Attica, here in Wood's district, who is quite prominent in politics, and a republican, and he said, "I think that every one of the five Senators who have been charged with being bribed by Tweed were bribed. I have always believed they were. I was at a meeting one night a couple of years ago, and I heard Judge Davis, now a Supreme Court Judge in New York, say openly that there were now in the Senate five republican Senators who had been bought by Tweed. I will confess he did not mention any names, but he might as well have done so, for it so happened that of the republican Senators of the Senate of 1870 only five were members of the Senate of 1872."

"And do you think," I asked, "that a majority of the republicans in the five districts concerned believed, during the campaign of 1872, that the charges were true?"

"I won't say a majority believed them to be true," was the reply; "but had every republican who did believe them to be true voted against our candidate in this district he would have been overwhelmingly defeated."

"And yet that was the great reform year?"

"I know it; but it was, strange as it may seem, that very reform movement that carried him, and I dare say the other four, along. We were unwilling to trust any democrat, and so stood by our own, with all their alleged sins fresh in our minds. Then there were certain doings in the district, that looked to us like malicious persecution on the part of his enemies, which helped him; but his election was not, as given out by his friends, a popular refutation of the charges made against him and the others."

In Mr. Bowen's district I found a large number of republicans, who also confessed they were a little "doubtful" of him, but who as frankly remarked that, had he desired a renomination, he could have obtained it, "and what's more," one added, "been elected by a larger majority than ever."

In Batavia and its immediate vicinity his friends appear to be quite numerous, and many of them, though not quite free from suspicion as to all that had been said about him being true, declared that even if they knew them to be true by positive proof, they would vote for him all the same. Yet again I met others who told me that Mr. Bowen would not have dared to ask for a renomination, and that if he had he would have suffered a most humiliating defeat. "This was what prevented him," said a Batavian, whom I met at the hotel, "from being a candidate. He was shrewd enough to let well enough alone." Mr. Bowen's successor will be Daniel S. Cole, of Albion, who has already served in the Senate. The Convention nominated him by acclamation.

A DEPOSED GENERAL.

Probably there is no one man in the Thirtieth district who has taken the charges against him so much to heart as General Wood himself. This, of course, under like circumstances, would be the case with any public man accused of wrong doing; but what I mean to say is that the accused in this instance has been very unjustly stigmatized as a man who actually took pride in being denounced for bribery, who made no attempt to conceal the fact that he had taken money from Gould and Tweed, and who had declared that he would do so again if he got the chance. This charge I have heard repeatedly made against him, and from the information derived from reliable sources in his district I know it to be utterly groundless. It will be generally conceded that last winter, in the Senate, he made a good record for himself as a hard worker, and, though he was set down as one of those who received $5,000 for voting against the Pro Rata Freight bill; the general belief is that he was suspected of being a sharer in the Pro Rata bill pool simply because of the $30,000 revelation made during the sittings of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, which had in charge the question of the right of Tweed to his seat in the last Senate. General Wood still claims that he was never bribed, but admits that he did borrow money from Tweed and Gould; but as the people at large have already pretty well made up their minds as to what the loans made to him were in reality intended to accomplish, I need not here go into detail about the matter. Suffice it to say that he has not been renominated, and could not have been had he tried his best to secure the Convention in his favor. It was his intention some months ago to run again for the Senate, confident that the people of his district would give him a hearty support, and he was probably led on to this hopeful view of things by what his friends alleged to be a fact—namely, that the very charges that were investigated during the session of the last Senate were freely made against him during the canvass of 1871, and that, notwithstanding they were made the rallying cry against him by his republican as well as democratic antagonists, he was re-elected by the tremendous majority of 5,257 over his popular opponent, Elias E. Harding, Allegany county, alone, where there was considerable division among the republicans, giving him a majority of 2,821. In the other two counties he actually ran ahead of the State ticket.

THE EFFECTS OF PUBLIC OPINION.

His friends, however, this year learned to their cost that even though Mr. Wood's run in the district might have been construed as a sort of rebuke to his alleged maligners, that in 1871 the charges were simply regarded as campaign slanders by many, and that then no formal investigation had been held, as in 1872. This difference Mr. Wood himself doubtless overlooked when he expressed his intention of going before the people again as a candidate this year; but the fact is that, whether he was guilty or not guilty, and although he was saved by his friends in the Senate from an ignominious expulsion, the results of the official investigation made an impression on the people in Livingston, Wyoming and Alleghany counties that promises to be lasting. It took the poor old gentleman some time to become convinced of this, but his friends a short time ago got their eyes opened to the real dangers of the situation, and so, very prudently, induced Mr. Wood to declare that he would not be a candidate. The Convention was finally held and the nomination has been given to Colonel Welland, who will, beyond a doubt, be elected by a handsome majority over his democratic antagonist. Had the Convention been foolish enough to have placed Wood in the field, as decided as the district is as a republican stronghold, I believe, from what I have heard upon all sides in Alleghany and Wyoming counties, that the democratic candidate would have had everything his own way in the race. This is saying a good deal more for the honesty of purpose of the people of the Thirtieth district than I can say for Mr. Bowen's district; for, as I have already intimated, had that gentleman been renominated he would be re-elected. However, I suppose that the people in his district look upon the charges against him pretty much in the same light as Wood's constituents looked upon the charges made against him in the newspapers and by rival politicians before any official investigation had stamped the suspicion attached to his conduct with the seal of condemnation.

A GOOD RECORD BLOTTED OUT.

And yet General Wood is greatly to be pitied. As a general during the war he made a brilliant name for himself as a gallant soldier, and won the respect of every man he had any dealings with in the army. When he returned home he resumed practice of the law, and even his most inveterate enemies are compelled to acknowledge that as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate he had never had a superior in point of ability. In his Senatorial district he was popular to a degree that falls to the lot of but few public men in country districts, where a man's every-day conduct, and even his private affairs, undergo a scrutiny from his neighbors which public men in large cities never dream of; and in his own county he held an honored place in the estimation of all his neighbors, democrats and republicans alike. But his election to the Senate was, indeed, a fatal thing for him, and by his "imprudences," as his friends call the charges made against him, in two brief years he has forfeited the respect and esteem of some, if not all, of the best men in his district. As I said before, no one feels his position more keenly than General Wood himself; and I must say that I pitied him from my heart a short time ago, when I met him and he told me he wasn't going to run again for the Senate, and when he added, rather reproachfully, "You newspaper men will have one less to abuse now."

THE ASSEMBLYMEN.

As to the Assemblymen in the two districts, I find that Elbert Townsend, who was the representative of the county last year, has been renominated, and that Elisha S. Whalen has also been renominated in Orleans county. They are both republicans and will be re-elected, although the farmers in the latter county threaten to make things lively for Whalen because he went over to the camp of the Usury law repealers last winter. Whalen is, consequently, on his marrow bones every day, begging piteously for mercy and promising to vote the other way this winter if the question ever comes up again. His prayers may have the effect between now and election day of softening the heart of the hardfisted plough followers in the district, and if they do no man will be happier than Mr. Whalen. Niagara county will also be sure to send two republicans again this year, A. C. Comstock and Dr. O. Bardwell being nominated. Alleghany will send a republican, and in lieu of Archibald Kennedy Jonathan B. Morey, republican, will be elected in Livingston, and Wyoming will also as usual send a republican. So it will be seen that as far as the Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth districts are concerned there is no hope for the democracy in the matter of either Senators or Assemblymen.

THE LIBERAL REPUBLICANS.

Meeting of the State Committee at the St. Denis Hotel—Reports from Various Parts of the State.

The Liberal Republican State Committee met yesterday noon at their headquarters, room 1 of the St. Denis Hotel. There was a very fair attendance. General John Cochrane presided and Mr. Clark Bell acted as secretary.

A resolution was passed "that the county committees of the various counties be requested to provide their own State tickets for their respective counties, for the reason that it is impracticable for the State Committee to do it on account of the local nominations being printed on the State ticket."

General Cochrane read a large number of letters from various parts of the State, showing that the local organizations are working zealously to insure the success of the ticket nominated at Elmira. The letters were, for the greater part, from officers of liberal republican organizations in the northern, western and eastern parts of the State.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the State Committee:—Mr. Alexander Pond, of Saratoga Springs, to represent the Nineteenth Congressional district; Mr. James J. Lindsley, ex-Mayor of Kingston, for the Fourteenth district; Mr. Burt Van Horn, of Lockport, for the Thirtieth district; Mr. Solomon Shaw, of Springfield, Erie county, for the Thirty-first district. The following gentlemen were appointed members of the Executive Committee:—Colonel Frederick A. Conkling, Benjamin F. Manierre, ex-Police Commissioner; Charles W. Goddard, Mr. Gilbert C. Deane, Charles St. John, Jr., Grinnell Burt, General Edward F. Jones, Mr. Thomas E. Stewart, Benjamin A. Willis, General John Cochrane, Chairman; S. C. Taber, Secretary, and Mr. Clark Bell, Treasurer.

The committee then adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair. The Executive Committee will meet this morning at the St. Denis Hotel at ten o'clock.

THE TAMMANY RATIFICATION.

A meeting of the Committee of Arrangements of Tammany Hall was held yesterday afternoon to consider the proper preparations to be made for the grand ratifications meeting to take place on Wednesday, the 29th. The following sub-committees were appointed:—

Invitations to Speakers—Messrs. Schell, Meade, Fine, Morton, Koch, Onley, Chanler and Plum.

Music—Messrs. Campbell, Flanigan, Blair, Ryan, Fitzpatrick and Michaels.

Printing—Messrs. Young, Gorman, Donnelly, Gale, Ackert and Keenan.

Fireworks—Messrs. Morrissey, Hayes, Healy, Moore, Keese and White.

Stands and Decorations—Messrs. Miller, Quincy, Marrin, McGowan, Harris and Spalthorf.

Officers of Meeting—Messrs. Kelly, Maciay, Schell, Fox, McMahon and Hogan.

Police—Messrs. Coulter, Ledwith, Shandley, Murphy, Reilly and Powers.

Committees on resolutions and facilities for reporters were also directed to be appointed.

It is understood that a number of eminent speakers have accepted invitations to speak on the occasion.

REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTION.

A Conference Committee Appointed.

The Republican County Convention was held last evening at Republican Hall, Twenty-third street and Broadway, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the various county offices. After the meeting had been called to order Police Commissioner Hugh Gardiner was appointed Chairman and Colonels B. T. Morgan and A. B. Ketchum and George W. Lyon, Vice Chairman. The first business in order was the reception of credentials and the calling of the roll. In the First district two lists were presented, but that headed by Michael W. Burns, the regular ticket, was the one recognized by the Convention. Chester A. Arthur then moved that a committee of one from each Assembly district be appointed by the Chair to confer with other organizations as to proper candidates and make their report to this Convention to-morrow evening, which was carried. The following were appointed as such committee:—Messrs. Michael W. Burns, Morris Friedsam, Thomas F. Geary, E. S. Newins, James Winterbottom, Daniel F. Crowley, John D. Lanson, John J. O'Brien, George E. Kasmire, Charles S. Strong, George Bliss, Chester H. Southworth, Charles S. Spencer, Robert B. Boyd, Hiram A. Pooler, William Laimbeer, Joel W. Mason, Chester A. Arthur, Isaac O. Hunt, William A. Darling and William Haw, Jr.

A motion was then offered that the Convention proceed to vote by informal ballot, which was lost. The Convention then adjourned.

REGISTRATION IN BROOKLYN.

The total vote registered in Brooklyn during the four days of registry this year is 66,657. The following is the record of each ward:—

Ward.		Ward.	
First	2,575	Fourteenth	3,416
Second	1,386	Fifteenth	2,912
Third	2,471	Sixteenth	3,993
Fourth	2,032	Seventeenth	3,1.5
Fifth	3,005	Eighteenth	1,711
Sixth	4,112	Nineteenth	2,517
Seventh	3,917	Twentieth	3,399
Eighth	1,767	Twenty-first	2,738
Ninth	2,045	Twenty-second	2,571
Tenth	3,608	Twenty-third	1,340
Eleventh	3,325	Twenty-fourth	812
Twelfth	3,104	Twenty-fifth	1,725
Thirteenth	3,075		
Total			66,657

This is a decrease from last year of 9,884—the registration of 1872 being 76,541.

MASSACHUSETTS REPUBLICAN NOMINATION.

BOSTON, Oct. 22, 1873.

Dr. George B. Loring has been nominated by the republicans for the State Senate, in the Second (Essex) district.

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRADE.

No Congressional Aid Needed by the American Shipbuilders—The Question of Transportation Discussed—A Series of Resolutions Adopted—Plea for a National Bankrupt Law.

CHICAGO, Ill., Oct. 22, 1873.

The National Board of Trade resumed its session this morning. President Fraley announced the Committee on Reform of the Currency, National Banking and National Banking Laws as follows:—Messrs. Wooley, of Cincinnati; Nurse, of Boston; Stranahan, of New York; Wright, of Chicago; Bonner, of St. Louis; Prindle, of Louisville; Burwell, of New Orleans; Grosvenor, of Portland; Smith, of Milwaukee, and Bromberg, of Mobile. President Fraley was added to the committee. The Secretary read the report of the Executive Council on the National Bankrupt law, containing the following suggestions:—The abolition of fees and the establishment of salaries for officers; enlarging the powers of assignees; authorizing creditors to choose a committee of their own number to settle the accounts and make distributions; that the federal government fix the amount and kind of property exempt from assignment, not subject to change by States.

The Board proceeded to discuss the following resolution regarding

AMERICAN SHIPPING INTERESTS,

offered by the Executive Council:—

Resolved, That a just regard for the increase of American shipping interests should cause Congress to encourage American shipbuilders and ship owners by an allowance of bounties for building ships, whether the materials used in the construction be of foreign or American production, so that American shipbuilders may be placed as nearly as possible upon the same footing as competitors in other countries.

Resolved, That the Board renew the recommendation to Congress that all articles of foreign product needed for subsistence and general use on board of vessels in the foreign trade be allowed to be withdrawn without the payment of duty from the bonded warehouse.

Resolved, That justice to the shipowning interests and the best welfare of the national commerce alike demand that the right be conceded by law to American citizens to purchase tonnage wherever built or owned, and to place it under the protection of their own flag.

Mr. HAWLEY, of Detroit, opposed any discrimination by the government in favor of any industrial interest as unwise and unconstitutional.

Mr. STONE, of Wilmington, said shipbuilders there did not desire any government aid. Their cost of building was not more than ten per cent more than the cost on the Clyde, and the cost of building on the Clyde was daily increasing by the advance in the cost of labor, coal and iron. Wilmington shipbuilders asked no government aid.

Mr. WETHERILL, of Philadelphia, agreed that American shipbuilders needed and asked no protection from the government. Steamships are now built in American waters at a less cost than on the Clyde.

Mr. SMITH, of Milwaukee, opposed the first resolution.

Mr. CONGER, of Massachusetts, opposed any class or special government legislation. He said let protection rely on individual enterprise.

Mr. STRANAHAN, of New York, said most of the foreign carrying was done in foreign bottoms because wages were cheaper, and he hoped some aid would be extended to Americans engaged in foreign commerce.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Burwell, of New Orleans; Davis, of Cincinnati; Dore, of Chicago; Hersey, of Portland; Taylor, of Cincinnati; Nazro, of Boston; Wooley, of Cincinnati; Dorr, of Buffalo; Grosvenor and Stone, of Wilmington.

The resolution was rejected—yeas 3, nays 58.

The second resolution was then taken up, and amendments to include all vessels engaged in inland traffic and apply to articles used in the construction of vessels.

Pending a vote on the amendments, a motion to lay the whole subject on the table was carried; but on the motion of Mr. Covington, of Cincinnati, the vote was reconsidered, and the amendments voted on and rejected, as was also the resolution, by 22 yeas to 36 nays.

The third resolution was then taken up.

Mr. NAZENS, of Boston, moved to amend by adding the words "upon the payment of a reasonable duty on the cost."

The amendment was adopted, and the resolution, as amended, was then rejected by 40 yeas to 23 nays, there not being two-thirds in the affirmative. The action on the second and third resolutions can badly be considered a fair expression of the Board, owing to the confusion and uncertainty occasioned by the wrangling over the amendments, and several members voted under protest.

Mr. ABLE, of St. Louis, gave notice that he would to-morrow move the reconsideration of the second and third of the above resolutions.

The report of President Fraley, favoring the government's establishing

A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,

was submitted, with the proposed act of Congress establishing and defining powers, &c., giving this executive department the supervision and care of agricultural, commercial, manufacturing and mining interests, under government regulation. The report was accepted, and the President explained the details of its provisions.

The report was then referred back, approved, to the Executive Council, with instructions to urge on Congress the establishment of the department.

Mr. GROSVENOR, of St. Louis, Chairman of the Committee on

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES,

submitted a partial report embracing general resolutions.

First—Recognizing measures for cheapening transportation as a national necessity.

Second—Declaring that Congress should charter any road between the interior and the seaboard which private capital may undertake to build; but that such road should be subject to the same State laws, as to taxation or control, as other roads in the same State.

Third—That Congress should prevent unjust restrictions by any State upon inter-state commerce, but that the protection of the people of each State from exactions of roads within the State, or refusal to perform their full duty as common carriers, may most effectively be secured by State courts and Legislatures.

Fourth—That the only permanent guarantee against unreasonable rates is to be found in the improvement of the natural free highways by water channel to the sea, and therefore rejoicing at the improvement of the St. Lawrence route by Canada, and the efforts to improve the canals by the State of New York, recommending earnest investigation of other routes, and trusting that the improvement of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers may be pressed without delay.

Fifth—That a Board of Commissioners should be appointed to investigate all plans for internal improvements, and that appropriations should be made only on its recommendations.

The subject of the National Bankrupt law was next taken up and the recommendations of the Executive Council approved, and Congress asked to appoint a commission, consisting of the Attorney General and seven merchants, bankers and manufacturers, to revise the law.

The Board then adjourned.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

The Senate Committee on Inland Transportation in Richmond.

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 22, 1873.

Senators Conkling, Sherman, Windom, Norwood and Davis, United States Senate Committee on Inland Transportation, arrived here yesterday. A conference was held to-day which was attended by Hon. Mr. Hereford, of West Virginia, and delegations of prominent citizens from Norfolk and Lynchburg. After inspecting the first level of the James River and Kanawha Canal and the ship locks, the committee examined a number of witnesses, including Mr. Bocock Craighill, Chief Engineer of the James River Improvement, and Colonel Whitcomb, Chief Engineer of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, General Hanpt and former engineer of the Hoosac Tunnel and now General Manager of the Air Line between Richmond and Atlanta. The testimony taken was chiefly with the view of ascertaining the practicability of the proposed completion of the James River and Kanawha Canal, and the construction of a tunnel for the canal the length of nine miles. The opinion of the engineers was to the effect that, the means being supplied for the work, the tunnel and canal would be completed within five years, at a cost of $14,000,000. The committee go hence to-morrow to Charleston, W. Va., and thence to Cincinnati, St. Louis and Louisville.

THE TAR-AND-FEATHER ENIGMA.

The California Yarn Found To Be False—Is Dr. Banks Looking for Kelsey?—That Eternal Inquest—State Aid Hoped For.

HUNTINGTON, L. I., Oct. 22, 1873.

The latest report concerning "new developments" in the Kelsey case will in all human probability go the way of those that have preceded it and prove a fizzle. On Monday last Huntington and Oyster Bay were suddenly set agog with the astounding rumor, at the time traceable to no source, that Charles G. Kelsey, the missing victim of Huntington's apparently tragic buffoon play of November last, was alive in California, personating his brother George, who is supposed to have died in the Golden State about twenty years ago, and that the parties implicated in his disappearance were taking steps to produce him here at the earliest practicable day.

The report in other hands was modified, however, to the effect that information had been received showing that George Kelsey was still alive, and that his letters to his relatives here were the cover of information conveyed to them from Charles. Since then I have made the rounds of all the parties who were likely to know anything concerning the truth of the rumor, and save as to a bare possibility, which will be found stated in its order,

THE WHOLE STORY HAS COLLAPSED.

On visiting the residence of the Kelsey brothers, who live some distance outside the village, I found that they had a brother named George, who went to California among the "Argonauts of '49," as Bret Harte calls the pioneer diggers; that he was about twenty years old at the time of his departure; that the family ceased to hear from him in or about the end of the year of 1852, and that for nearly twenty years they have regarded him, and still do regard him, as dead. At the same time they have never received any proof whatever of his death. He was a man nearly six feet in height, and bore no personal resemblance to his missing brother Charles. The family further state that they have not received any letter purporting to come from him during that interval.

Calling at the residence of Dr. George B. Banks, who, I thought, by reason of the fact that he has been so prominently involved in the case and exhibits so much anxiety regarding it, would be likely to know

WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN

to prove Kelsey's existence, I was informed by an elderly gentleman, a member of the family, that Dr. Banks was absent from the village, and had been gone for several days. The gentleman stated, however, that he had not heard of the report beyond what he had seen in the HERALD on the subject, and he did not know whether Dr. Banks knew anything of it or not. When I inquired of him somewhat pointedly as to Dr. Banks' whereabouts, or whether his absence had anything to do with the rumor, or whether the Doctor was endeavoring to find Kelsey alive, the gentleman indicated clearly by his hesitancy and silence that he did not desire to answer the question, and I learned nothing further than that he would probably be back in a few days."

I afterward inquired of a number of other persons, intimates of Dr. Banks, and they all seemed to be well aware of his absence, but declined to say anything concerning the objects of his departure. Scores of people here express the opinion (whatever it may be worth unsupported by any reasons) that his absence is in some way connected with the rumor, and that he is looking for Kelsey "somewhere," whether in El Dorado or not. Conceding freely the Doctor's right to leave the village on business, and particularly his right to

PRODUCE THE REAL LIVE "CARTHALO"

at the inquest on Friday, which latter denouement would be the happiest, as well as most surprising, that could result, I must say that his absence has caused a singular amount of comment, when taken into consideration with the pointed refusals of his friends to say where he is. His acquaintances, or those of them I subsequently sought, happen to be included in what is known as the tar and feather party, and, thinking they might know something of the rumor, I asked them concerning it. It had reached them all, in various disguises, but they said they knew nothing of its truth or falsity. The Postmaster informed me that no letters bearing a California postmark had been received at his office for a long time and that he usually noticed them when they did come.

It is therefore just possible that

DR. BANKS IS "LOOKING FOR KELSEY,"

but I do not think it at all likely. The air all day long in this village is thick with groundless rumors, and is anybody having a taste for gossiping and slander wants a job of that sort this is a good place for them to emigrate to.

There is every probability that the inquest will be closed on Friday, though with such a very "onsartin" kind of man as Coroner Davis no one can tell what may happen. He wants strong evidence, that he has not yet obtained, before he can reach much of a result in the matter, and if that which he has so often promised, and as often failed to produce, does not turn up itself and walk right into court he may want to adjourn for a month or two more.

Meantime everybody is pleased that the HERALD editorially urges

STATE INTERFERENCE,

to be initiated by Governor Dix, and several of the persons prominent in the "tar party" have stated to me that they hope the Governor will take action, so that, whether the guilty parties are discovered or not, those who are innocent may by prompt measures be relieved of the odium of a crime which they had no part in committing. The people unite in the cry "Why don't somebody do something?" and there it ends; town and county seem paralyzed and helpless.

THE FIRE FIGHTERS.

National Convention of Chief Engineers of Fire Departments of the United States.

BALTIMORE, Md., Oct. 22, 1873.

The National Convention of Chief Engineers of Fire Departments of the United States met at ten o'clock this morning.

President DAMRELL submitted a report from the Committee on Finance, assessing each delegate $5 to meet the expenses of the Convention.

Chief Engineer SPILMAN, of Baltimore, stated that there were no expenses to be provided for, as that matter had been attended to, but the assessment was to defray the expenses of printing and incidentals that may occur between now and the meeting of the Convention next year. The report was adopted.

Ex-Chief Engineer George B. Harris, of Rochester, N. Y.; Henry H. Hall and M. B. Wilson, of the Board of Underwriters of New York, were enrolled as members of the Convention. The Baltimore *Underwriters* was selected as the organ of the Convention for communication between chiefs of departments and the Executive Committee.

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws submitted a report, which was adopted.

Chief HILL, of Cleveland, submitted a report on fire escapes actually serviceable for invalids, women and children, and recommended the plan submitted by Mr. Tobey, of Boston. The report was recommitted, with authority to memorialize Congress to adopt the necessary measures to stimulate invention in this respect.

Chief STOCKELL, of Nashville, reported on the regulation of the storage of inflammable material and the use of the same for heating or illuminating purposes, and the exclusion of rubbish liable to spontaneous ignition; recommending different modes in reference to the storage of petroleum and for the prevention of spontaneous combustion. The report was recommitted, with instruction to print that portion relative to spontaneous combustion from oils.

Chief HOWLAND, of New Bedford, moved that the committees which have not reported be instructed to report to the Executive Committee. Adopted.

Chief RAYMOND, of Cambridge, submitted a report on the best mode of organization and the most effective system of discipline for fire departments, and the importance of separating them from political influence. The report, which was accepted, deprecates annual changes in fire departments, and recommends a term of three years' service, with thorough discipline.

On suggestion of President Damrell that delegates representing the underwriters be added to the permanent committee, Mr. George J. Hope, President of the Continental Insurance Company of New York; Edward S. Rouse, of Cleveland; Mr. Kinsley, of the Faneuil Hall Insurance Company of Boston; Henry Kellogg, President of the Phenix Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn., and J. B. Seidenstrider, of Baltimore, were placed on committees. The usual resolution of thanks to the presiding officer and secretary, to reporters and the Fire Commissioners of Baltimore for hospitalities was passed, congratulations were exchanged, and the Convention at twelve o'clock adjourned *sine die*.

The delegates visited Washington at one o'clock in a special train provided by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. The banquet, which was on the programme for to-night, took place last night at the Carrollton Hotel and was a numerously attended and happy affair.

FIRE ON AVENUE B.

A fire broke out yesterday morning in the premises of the New York Gas Company, on avenue B, between Twentieth and Twenty-first streets, and caused a damage of $10,000. An examination will be held by the Fire Marshal to-day as to the cause.

FLEETWOOD PARK.

Crown Prince the Winner of the Special Premium of $1,000.

Three hundred persons assembled at Fleetwood Park yesterday afternoon to witness the race between George N. Ferguson's white gelding Crown Prince and Joseph Harker's brown gelding Young Bruno, for a special premium of $1,000, mile heats, best three in five, in harness. Bruno was the favorite before the start, $100 to $70. Crown Prince won the first and second heats, when the betting changed to $100 to $12 on the white gelding. Then Young Bruno, aided by the unsteadiness of his competitor, won the third and fourth heats, when he became the favorite at $50 to $40. In the fifth heat Bruno went into the air at the half-mile pole, which mishap settled the matter for him, as Crown Prince came away and won the heat and race as he liked.

SUMMARY.

FLEETWOOD PARK, MORRISANIA, N. Y., Oct. 22.—Special premium of $1,000; mile heats, best three in five, in harness. Judges—Messrs. Brown, Ridaboch and Irving.

George N. Ferguson's w. g. Crown Prince (Ferguson)	1	1	2	2	1
Joseph Harker's br. g. Young Bruno (Charles Green)	2	2	1	1	2

TIME.

	Quarter.	Half.	Mile.
First heat	37	1:11	2:26¾
Second heat	39	1:13	2:27⅛
Third heat	37	1:11½	2:27⅛
Fourth heat	37½	1:13¼	2:29½
Fifth heat	36¾	1:11	2:27¾

PROSPECT PARK FAIR GROUNDS.

Berkshire Boy the Winner of the Postponed 2:39 Race.

Two hundred persons assembled at the Prospect Park Fair Grounds yesterday afternoon to witness the decision of the postponed 2:39 race from Tuesday. Promptly at two o'clock the horses were called, and after five scorings the word was given to a good send-off. Without any difficulty Berkshire Boy took the lead and maintained it throughout, winning the heat and race. Fred Tyler was second and Sterling third, but in the distribution of the money Sterling has second prize and Tyler saves his entrance. Immediately after the heat Mr. William McMahon, of Deerfoot Park, purchased Berkshire Boy for $5,700 cash. The following is a complete

SUMMARY.

PROSPECT PARK FAIR GROUNDS, L. I., Oct. 21 and 22.—Purse of $500, for horses that never beat 2:30, mile heats, best three in five, in harness; $300 to the first, $150 to the second and $50 to the third horse. Judges—Robert Fletcher, Charles Bloom, Arthur Benson, H. Hunt and Geo. W. Oakley.

John Merritt's br. g. Berkshire Boy	3	1	2	1	1
M. Hopkins' ch. g. Sterling	1	4	1	3	3
J. H. Phillips' rn. g. Fred Tyler	2	3	3	2	2
L. S. Samons' s. g. Port Washington	6	2	4	4	4
H. C. Whitson's b. m. Pauline	5	6	5	5	5
John Murphy's s. g. Sorrel Jake	4	5	dis.		

TIME.

	Quarter.	Half.	Mile.
First heat	39	1:16	2:33½
Second heat	39¼	1:15¼	2:33¼
Third heat	39	1:16	2:35¼
Fourth heat	39	1:15¼	2:33
Fifth heat	37	1:12½	2:31½

TO-DAY'S AMUSEMENT.

This is the second day of the regular trotting meeting at the Prospect Park Fair Grounds and two interesting events are on the card. First of these are the three-year-old colt stakes, which has three starters, and the second a purse of $600 for horses that never beat 2:30, mile heats, best three in five, in harness; $325 to the first, $175 to the second and $100 to the third horse. Entered for this are Daniel Piener's black stallion Daniel Boone, John Murphy's bay gelding Everitt Ray, J. W. Pendergast's chestnut mare Lady Emma, A. J. Feek's bay gelding Clothespin, J. H. Phillips' gray gelding Jack Draper, M. Martin's bay gelding Mystic, James Dongrey's gray gelding Ed. Eaton and Peter Manee's bay mare Mary A. Whitney.

The first race will be called at two o'clock, sharp. The Coney Island cars leaving the Fulton ferry every ten minutes, pass the grounds.

DEERFOOT PARK.

The second autumn trotting meeting at this popular track commences Tuesday next, 28th inst., and continues Wednesday and Thursday. There will be two races each day and entered for the several events are over fifty horses, representing the finest clippers in this vicinity. Mr. McMahon the Superintendent has arranged the purses to be trotted as follows:—Tuesday, 2:50 and 2:38 classes; Wednesday, 2:42 and 2:34 classes; Thursday, three minute and a race to be decided upon the "free-for-all" not having filled.

TROTTING IN KENTUCKY.

Second Day of the Trotting Horse Breeders' Association Meeting at Lexington—Mambrino Patchen Filly, Hylas, Dairy Maid and Joe Harker Filly the Winners.

LEXINGTON, Oct. 22, 1873.

This was the second day of the Trotting Horse Breeders' Association meeting, and the attendance was very large and the track in fine condition. There were four races on the card, the first being the Tracey Stakes, for two-year-olds, $50 entrance, half forfeit, mile and repeat. Of twelve nominations but three came to the post, these being John M. Patterson's sorrel filly, by Balsora, dam by Mambrino Prince; Dr. L. Herr's (Joseph Ewalt's) bay filly Mambrino Patchen and Dr. L. Herr's (John Stout's) sorrel filly, by Mambrino Patchen, dam by Mark Time. The latter won the race in two straight heats. Time, 2:48¾, 2:54.

The second event was the Woodford County Stakes, for four-year-olds, $50 entrance, $25 forfeit. It was a walk over for John B. George's sorrel colt Hylas, by Alcalde.

The third event was a purse of $700, for horses that had never beaten 2:45, mile heats, best three in five, in harness; $500 to the first, $150 to the second and $50 to the third horse. There were eighteen entries and fourteen starters.

SUMMARY.

Dairy Maid	3	5	4	1	1
Chieftain	1	1	3	3	3
Captain Jack	8	2	1	2	2
Frank Miller	2	6	5	4	4
Fannie Robinson	7	3	2	6	5
Howard	4	4	6	5	6
Ira E.	5 dis.				
Richmond	6 dis.				

Time, 2:36—2:34—2:36½—2:37—2:39½—2:42¼.

The fourth contest was a match between Hoyt's two-year-old filly, by Confederate Chief, and Macey's two-year-old filly, by Joe Harker. The latter won, distancing the former. Time, 2:49.

MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB.

First Day of the Autumn Running Meeting at Baltimore—The Events and Entries—Pool Selling.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 22, 1873.

The races commence to-morrow and