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JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
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Volume XXXIX.....No. 43

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE, Washington street, Brooklyn.—DIANA; OR, LOVE'S MASQUE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mrs. Bowers.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—POMP; OR WAY DOWN SOUTH, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, No. 585 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—FUN IN A FOG; MORE BLUNDERS THAN ONE. Begins at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Vokes Family.

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth street.—LEAST SIN, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:20 P. M. CIGARETTE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-third street and Broadway.—FOLLINE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Harkins, Miss Ada Dyas.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Eighth avenue and Twenty-third street.—HUMPTY DUMPTY AT SCHOOL and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. G. L. Fox.

THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, Sixth avenue and Twenty-third street.—ELENE, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mrs. J. B. Booth.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirteenth street.—MONEY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Lester Wallack, Miss Jeffreys Lewis.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston and Bleecker streets.—VAUDEVILLE and NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT and Holman Opera Troupe, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

GERMANIA THEATRE, Fourteenth street.—EINE VORNEHME EHE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE, opposite City Hall, Brooklyn.—FAUST, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11:45 P. M. Kellogg English Opera Company.

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street—CONCERT of Caroline Richings' Musical Union, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third street, corner of Sixth avenue.—CINDERELLA IN BLACK, NEGRO MINSTRELSY, &c., at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

COLOSSEUM, Broadway, corner of Thirty-fifth street.—PARIS BY NIGHT, at 1 P. M.; closes at 5 P. M.; same at 7 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, Feb. 12, 1874.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the Herald.

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EXALTED RESPECT FOR THE LAMENTED GERARD! HIS ASSOCIATES OF THE BENCH AND BAR AND THE MASSES UNITE IN A HEARTFELT FINAL TRIBUTE—THIRD PAGE.

THAT UPTOWN MILITARY PARADE GROUND IN THE PROCESS OF LEGAL ADJUSTMENT! EIGHT JURORS OBTAINED IN THE SIMMONS-DURTEA MURDER TRIAL—THE WATER COLOR DISPLAY—NINTH PAGE.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS ON 'CHANGE YESTERDAY—PALMER'S CLAIM ON THE CITY—EIGHTH PAGE.

MONSIEUR TONSON.—The usual bill in relation to insurance companies is before the Legislature. Will the companies please take notice and make the best of their way to Limerick?

THE ARGUMENT in the civil cases against the Tammany corruptionists, in which the people of the State are made complainants, was commenced in the Court of Appeals at Albany yesterday. Mr. Charles O'Conor opened for the people and Mr. Elihu Root argued for the defendants. The case will be before the Court again to-day.

DOCTORS DIFFER.—The American Institute holds its annual election of directors to-day. There is trouble in the camp and an opposition ticket in the field. The issue seems to turn upon the point whether the last fair of the Institute was a paying or losing experiment. One side declares that it realized a net profit of fifteen thousand dollars. The other side asserts that it made a dead loss of twelve thousand dollars. Those entitled to vote will please pay their money and take their choice.

The Two Great Interoceanic Lines—The Advantages of the Nicaraguan Route.

The new movement for the survey of the interoceanic water ways on the American Isthmus will be hailed with universal pleasure. The supplemental exploration of the Nicaraguan and Atrato routes by competent civilian engineers will deepen the already deep interest in the future canal. We may now look forward to this exploration as the consummative measure for obtaining all needed knowledge of the isthmian orography. But, in fact, we may regard this canal problem as one of ages, the grand issues of which have been practically settled and only the details left to be considered.

The Atrato route, of which so much has been recently put forth to the public, has been carefully popularized, and the energy of Captain Selfridge's party, who surveyed it, has met a well merited meed of official encomium. The great rival route is now almost universally conceded to be, not by Tehuantepec, but by Lake Nicaragua. The Tehuantepec scheme has been tacitly abandoned on the obviously good grounds that the elevation to be surmounted is too great, and the rainfall and water supply of the country are insufficient for all the levels.

While heartily rejoicing in the present arrangement for sending the civilian and military engineers to examine and report finally on the Atrato and Nicaraguan routes, we think that their task can only decide engineering points touching the great issues involved. The most momentous and controlling points lie outside the scope of such a survey, and we apprehend the time has come to press them home on thinking Americans.

The cost of a canal by either of the two most practicable routes would, as nearly as any estimation can decide, be about sixty millions of dollars. If we consider the necessity of a ship tunnel on the Atrato line, its high grade of one hundred and twenty feet and the untried experiment of such a mammoth excavation in the water-deluged mountains of Columbia, the prospect is forbidding. Nothing, certainly, would warrant so uncertain and formidable an undertaking unless the Atrato route is demonstrated to possess extraordinary compensative advantages over that by Nicaragua. Is this demonstrated?

We can answer the question now as well as if the present outgoing surveyors had completed their task and presented their decisions. Lake Nicaragua is a great and well maintained fresh water basin, more than three hundred miles in circuit, and admits of being navigated by the largest sailing vessels and steamers. It is united with the Atlantic by the large surplus overflow from its own fountains, forming the broad current of the San Juan, and it is separated from the Pacific by a narrow neck of land of light altitude and needing no tunnel. The utilization of the San Juan River from the mouth, where lies the excellent harbor of Greytown, to its issue from the lake is assured by the best engineers. It is known that in the last century the Spanish trading ships used to ascend freely from the Atlantic up to the lake, impelled by the propitious trade winds of that latitude. And even now the steamboat, so gradual is the slope of the coast, easily ascends the rapids. The adaptation of the river to canalling purposes is a simple engineering work and is of a kind which has been continually demonstrated to be feasible. Even where it has been tried on a grand scale in China it has beautifully succeeded. The Great Canal, crossing the Hoang-ho and Yang-tse-kiang, runs from north to south seven hundred miles, and in every part of its course it traverses alluvial soil, but never, at any part, is it carried through twenty miles of country unaided by tributary rivers.

These manifest and long ago known and established advantages of the Nicaraguan route are reinforced by others which have been almost ignored. The ship bound from Europe or New York to China and Japan or to California would on her outward voyage save from seven hundred to nine hundred miles by taking the isthmian canal through Nicaragua instead of the more southerly one via the Atrato River. After entering the Pacific at the western terminus of the Nicaragua Canal such a vessel would at once strike the heart of the trade winds, in which the old navigators were wont to say they could go to sleep and cross the Pacific. On the return voyage the ship would take the anti-trades north of thirty-five degrees north latitude, and thus she would save as much time and distance as in her outward trip.

The meteorological conditions which prevail along the Nicaraguan and Atrato routes are manifestly in favor of the former. The Atrato River and its watershed, taking all the data collected by meteorologists, has an annual rainfall of at least ninety-seven inches, and probably in some years one hundred and twenty inches, most of which water descends torrentially. At Cartagena Ulloa describes the rain tempests as so impetuous in their precipitation that "the streets have the appearance of rivers, and the country of an ocean." While the original cost of the Atrato Canal might possibly not exceed that one by way of Lake Nicaragua the future expenditure necessary for repairs after the rainy season would be far greater; for, as compared with the torrential rains of the Atrato Valley, Nicaragua is moderately watered. The precipitation annually does not exceed sixty-five inches, and even were it twice or three times as great the tempestuous rains would fall on only a small part of the canal, and would only go towards swelling the great lacustrine reservoir out of which the San Juan River is fed.

Physical geography has long since discovered the beautiful and benign economy of lakes. They are natural reservoirs, holding back the water in time of flood and storing it away in deep caverns and littoral estuaries, to be discharged in time of drought. They thus subserve the purpose of a meteorological balance wheel, insuring uniformity of supply—the very essential of a great interoceanic waterway. Evidently the Nicaraguan lake is the natural provision, if any exists, for the great highway of international commerce.

There is not now known a solitary advantage in the Atrato scheme which would compensate for or overweigh the yet greater political consideration that the Nicaraguan route is for us nearer home, and hence more decidedly the American route. In all the physical aspects in which the two competitive routes have been or may be viewed the balance is in favor of the more northerly. The sacrifice of human life in its construction and maintenance, as well as among those who would be exposed *in transitu*, would be far less than in the case of the Atrato thoroughfare; for, while the climate of Nicaragua is comparatively salubrious for a tropical latitude, the Atrato River smokes under the very blaze of the thermal equator. It lies in a region of notorious unhealthiness, the famous "La Sepultura de los Europeanos," and would prove equally "the grave of Americans."

As before stated, we heartily commend the plan of sending the eminent engineers of the country to report on the more minute points of the survey. Their report will serve to put the whole question beyond the sphere of dreamy speculation or Congressional talk, and to transfer it, we may hope, into that of early and earnest action.

The great problem of Le Brun—what is to be the future highway of the world's commerce—can only be solved by cutting the isthmian canal. Whatever is to be done ought to be at once inaugurated.

Charitable Entertainments.

Much good has been accomplished this season by the various charitable entertainments, theatrical performances, balls, concerts and the like, the proceeds of which have been distributed among the poor of the city. Many thousands of dollars have been realized from these sources. The necessity for relief is now more urgent than ever; hence the efforts of those who are instrumental in arranging charitable entertainments and the co-operation of those through whose liberality they are made successful should not be relaxed. This week a very enjoyable programme is offered at the armory of the Seventy-first regiment, on Broadway and Thirty-fifth street. The usual fair is omitted, and instead the armory will be open on Friday and Saturday next, commencing at four P. M. on Friday, and the entertainments will comprise music by the regimental band, promenade concerts, dancing, refreshments, Punch and Judy shows, Valentine post offices and other fun and frolics. Many thousands ought to pass in and out and enjoy themselves for a short time during the two days, especially as the charge of admission is only one dollar. The proceeds go to the funds of the Samaritan Home for the Aged, a most excellent institution. Similarly deserving of liberal support will be the "Pot-Pourri" at St. Cecelia Hall, on West Seventeenth street, at five P. M. on Monday next, the receipts of which are to be devoted to the aid of the poor. All such entertainments should be generously patronized by our citizens.

WHISKEY BROUGHT TO GRIEF.—It appears that among the evidences of the perfection of our federal system of enforcing the laws Barren Island furnishes a very convenient if unhappy illustration. There was formerly upon its sterile acres a fat-rendering establishment, but carcasses becoming scarce or a demand for them rare, the property was put to the use of a distillery, without the knowledge of the federal authorities, we are bound to believe, and immense quantities of whiskey were manufactured. This whiskey reached the consumer without the tedious detentions of the taxgatherer, and it seems that a certain deck hand, believing this form of doing business to be irregular, told his story to the authorities, who, with one hundred soldiers, yesterday morning captured the island and large quantities of the contraband fluid.

SOUP KITCHENS.—Already a great deal of good has been done in directing public attention in special directions where there was distress, but pinching hunger is still abroad, and the need is felt for a more systematic daily distribution of food in different quarters of the city. Are the churches doing anything? They are clearly in the number of organizations from whom society has a right to expect efficient service in such a case. All these bodies of men and women, often in good circumstances, and at least agreeing on the large points of Christian charity, might accomplish wonders by united action on behalf of the wretched poor. Shall we have some soup kitchens organized by the churches? Not long ago all the churches in London appointed a Hospital Sunday—a day on which to collect money for the hospitals of their great city—and it was a memorable success. Our churches might with equal good effect appoint a "Soup Kitchen Sunday."

PRACTICAL CHARITY.—Perhaps the best and most practical machinery in aid of charity is that rendered by the press. Yesterday we published the case of Mrs. Ford, a widow with nine children, in a starving condition, and before noon of the same day the poor woman had received sufficient assistance to make her comfortable for many days—one giving a ton of coal, several sending meat, some clothes for the children and several sums of money. Ten dollars were received for her at this office. There is no want of a disposition to give, but people want to know where to give; and any distinctly stated and well established case of distress is sure of sympathy and ample aid in this rich and generous city.

THE REMAINS OF JAMES W. GERARD were buried yesterday. The best proof that he lived a noble life is in the spectacle around his bier. The Bench and Bar were never more fully represented on a similar occasion, and we believe it is the first time in the city where the little school children have so spontaneously testified their grief at the death of a public man.

THE LEGISLATURE IS PUZZLED WHAT to do with the various projects for the promotion of rapid transit in our city. In all the schemes so far presented the accustomed nigger has been discovered, so that the virtuous representatives do not know what to do. The plain and simple course is the appointment of a reliable commission with full power to erect a railway for the benefit of the citizens. It is the quickest and cheapest solution of the rapid transit question.

VIRGINIA EXCITED.—Virginia is in a blaze of excitement. Governor Kemper is actually to visit President Grant. Indeed, he is on his way to Washington. He may even be at the White House at the present moment. We are told that some Virginian organs denounce the visit; that others—the majority, too—approve of it; that Mosby arranged it; that Jubal Early opposes it, and that Withers endorses it. After this we hope the President and the Governor may enjoy a pleasant time. No doubt they will. Governor Kemper smokes.

The Connecticut Republicans—Their Candidates and Platform.

The Republican Convention of the State of Connecticut met at Hartford yesterday and put in nomination a ticket for State officers which is supposed to be respectable enough and acceptable to the party. Mr. Harrison, the nominee for Governor, was honored with the unanimous vote of the Convention, and he ought to be elected if a persistent straining after the office, without much scruple as to from whom it may come, entitles him to its possession. The remainder of the ticket is of a satisfactory, if not of a very striking, character. The platform, however, will need endorsement to establish the fact that it is the proclamation of a republican convention, just as the pictures of some artists require foot notes to indicate which figure in the scene is intended for a horse and which for an elephant. Indeed, the resolutions read very much like a satire upon the history of the republican party. They declare that the end of free government can only be secured by the election of honest and capable men to public office, and by conducting public affairs in accordance with the sound and approved maxims of business and political economy, alluding, no doubt, to Credit Mobilier. They declare that "the States should be left to regulate their own affairs without interference," evidently referring to Louisiana. They endorse civil service reform without citing the case of the New York Custom House Surveyor. They disapprove any inflation of the paper currency, passing politely over the questionable issue of the forty million reserve. They disapprove of subsidies of public lands in the interests of private corporations, but without alluding to the liberal land grants made by the republican Congress.

So on to the end of the chapter. The "platform" is one upon which any person and every person can stand. But, like all other political platforms, it is the merest claptrap—a few snares put out to catch the young and unwary game. If the people would look more to the acts of the party whose candidates claim their suffrages and less to the resolutions put forth by party conventions, they would better understand how to vote so as to promote their own interests. The humbug of political platforms on both sides is, however, beginning to be understood, and it is to be hoped the time is not far distant when these unmeaning lies will cease to be "resolved" by party conventions, and when the candidates will be left to stand the test of the people's votes on their individual character and merits.

Patriotism and Poverty.

There was a little scene in the State Assembly yesterday growing out of the proposition to appoint a committee to represent New York at the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. Mr. Beebe, of Sullivan, desired to have it embodied in the resolution that the committee should serve without pay. This called out the spread eagle orators, who spurned the paltry idea of mere dollars and cents when the glorious American Union was about to become one hundred years old and to flap her wings triumphantly in the astonished eyes of a wonder-stricken world. But Mr. Beebe insisted that it was an outrage to think of squandering money upon itinerant Centennial Commissioners while the State Treasury was admittedly bankrupt and while starving women and children haunted the very Capitol and clamored for relief. The galleries applauded the sentiment and the Speaker very properly put a stop to the unparliamentary demonstration by ordering the galleries to be cleared. At the same time the House adopted the suggestion to make the committee serve without pay. That is right. Any one who goes to the Philadelphia Centennial, officially or unofficially, ought to be made to pay his own expenses.

RAPID TRANSIT AND SLOW COACHES.—Peter Cooper, on behalf the Citizens' Association, writes to Speaker Husted, protesting against using the public money or the city's credit to insure rapid transit in New York. At the same time he agrees that it would be wise to raise a commission in whose hands should rest the power to decide upon the most practical scheme of rapid transit and upon the propriety of making the road a public work, like the Central Park or the Croton water. Well, this is all that the friends of rapid transit ask. Let a commission be created to take control of the question and we shall get rid of all corrupt jobs and of all stupid propositions, including the patent second-story double-wheeled wire-roped well-greased line along the Third avenue.

THE POOR AND THE CHARITABLE.—The communications and incidents which appear in the HERALD to-day bring to light several additional cases of destitution in the city, and reveal more and more suffering. At the same time we are pleased to see that the subscriptions in aid of the homeless and the starving flow liberally in, and that many of our citizens are aroused to a sense of the duty of a Christian people in a season like the present. We trust that the example of those who have already contributed will stimulate all who can afford to give to similar acts of charity.

THE GRANGERS.—The platform of the national grangers, which we publish this morning, has a genuine, earnest and honest ring, which sounds pleasantly on the ear in these days of political fraud and party claptrap. If the grangers will remain true to the objects they avow and the principles they enunciate, especially if they will adhere firmly and sincerely to their expressed determination not to allow politics to enter into their organization, they will accomplish all they desire for themselves and do much good to the whole country.

A TERRIBLE VISITATION.—The village of South Windham, Conn., is undergoing a terrible affliction in the ravages of smallpox. The disease has attacked every house in the village, and several deaths have occurred. Business is suspended; the trains on the New London Northern Railroad are rushed by without stopping, and no communication from the outside is allowed. The disease is said to have been introduced by a lady from Mystic, whose child was recovering from the malady. The spread of the disease to other towns is feared. It is to be hoped that the panic which has evidently seized the people will cease and that proper precautions will be taken to prevent further calamity.

Reminiscences of a Veteran Politician.

A few days ago the State Assembly tendered the privileges of the floor to Mr. Thurlow Weed, who happened to be visiting the city of Albany, for many years his home. Yesterday Mr. Weed sent a communication to the Speaker of the Assembly, acknowledging the compliment. Such an interchange of courtesy would be ordinarily a mere matter of form, requiring only a passing notice; but in the case of a veteran leader who, both as an editor and a dictator, has held the fate of rulers and the destinies of a great party in his hands for nearly half a century, it calls out reminiscences of great interest, and becomes, as it were, a landmark in the political history of the State.

The first thought which occurs to us, as we read the letter addressed by Mr. Thurlow Weed to Speaker Husted, is not flattering to our present State legislators. It suggests to us that the public men of the present time are very inferior to those who were known at the State capital in the days when the writer of the communication was an active participant in the business of legislation, either inside or outside the chambers. We are disposed to inquire who, in the present Legislature, when a quarter of a century has passed away, can hope to be mentioned in such a list as Mr. Weed now advances to honorable notice—a list in which occur such names as James Talmadge, David B. Ogden, Peter R. Livingston, Ogden Hoffman, John C. Spencer, Azariah C. Flagg, Frank Granger, Millard Fillmore, Francis B. Cutting, Michael Hoffman, Luther Bradish, Greene C. Bronson, John A. Dix, Abijah Mann, Sanford E. Church, Albert H. Tracy, William H. Seward, Daniel S. Dickinson, Samuel Young and others of equal reputation? How many members of the present Senate and Assembly could some future Thurlow Weed—if Thurlow Weed himself had any successor—hold up as models of able legislators to the admiring gaze of our children and grandchildren in the early part of the next century?

Mr. Weed's reminiscences are always interesting. His memory is like the watch he recently so fortunately recovered—it steadily retains the impression of those who have been and are dear to him, notwithstanding the inevitable passing away of time. When he tells us of the survivors of the Legislature of 1824, half a century ago, describing their several fortunes and present faculties; when he recalls with evident pride and gratification the success in after life of those who first entered the political arena as adventurers with himself in the days when his frame was strong and his ambition high; when he speaks feelingly of those who have passed from time into eternity, or whose infirmities remove them from that active life to which he has happily been spared, we discover in his words the kindly, benevolent heart for which he has been distinguished and the secret of that earnest devotion he has always commanded from those who have been honored with his friendship. His letter to the Assembly should be productive of some practical good in the scenes among which his name is still a household word.

THE CURRENCY DISTRIBUTION BILL was debated in the Senate yesterday, and the discussion developed much sectional feeling. The New England States were accused of obstructing the way of the Northwest and of the South, while the retort was made that when the national banking system was organized the West and South would not take advantage of it. Mr. Morton described the people of the West as having to come to Congress to beg for justice. "We have given you men to populate your West," said New Hampshire. "Yes," replied Michigan, "and you deny to the people you sent there the rights they would have enjoyed had they stayed at home." Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, attributed the feeling against the New England States to their superiority in maple sugar and pretty girls. And in this able and erudite manner the grave and learned Senators discussed the question of finance until the close of the debate without doing any work or coming to any conclusion. Is the "distribution" proposition a subterfuge designed to misdirect public attention until inflation is ready to be rushed through Congress? We shall see.

ANOTHER MODOC AFFAIR THREATENED.—It is to be hoped that the brutal massacres and assassinations by the Indians of the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail reservations, reported from Laramie to-day, will arouse the government to immediate action. We must have no more hesitation, no more Modoc blunders. The fate of Lieutenant Robinson, Corporal Coleman and the acting agent, Frank Appleton, should be sufficient to induce determined action against the savages before we are called upon to record fresh horrors.

THE TRADES UNIONS AND THE STRIKES.—The operations of the trades unions published in the HERALD to-day show the activity and the usefulness of those organizations. At the same time our account proves that there are many good, industrious workmen who remain, for some reason or another, outside the unions. The difference between the two classes is that the workmen who belong to the unions must join "strikes," whether they are satisfied with their wages or not, while the latter are at liberty to act on their own volition alone. It will be seen that the capmakers continue their "strike" and compel the closing of the manufactories; that the cigarmakers have partially left work, and that the furcutters and tailors are thinking of following suit. A season of so much destitution seems a strange time to indulge in "strikes."

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY.—This being the anniversary of the birth of President Lincoln the event is to be celebrated in a number of cities. In Buffalo the exercises will consist of a semi-religious, semi-patriotic programme. Though it is nearly nine years since Mr. Lincoln was assassinated this, we believe, is the first time that birthday honors were accorded to his memory.

MORE FAT.—A bill in the Assembly seeks to transfer the duties of the Board of Excise to the Police Commission and to abolish the former Board. This would give more fat to Mulberry street; at the same time would it not be well to make the Licensing Board a bureau of the Police Department?

ALCOHOL DOOMED.

The Ohio Women Marching on the Enemy.

COLUMBUS AND CINCINNATI.

Intense Excitement at the Conquerors' Approach.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1874.

A secret meeting of the State Liquor Dealers' Association has been held in this city to take measures to defend their interests or compromise with the enemy.

The meeting, however, did not amount to much. No prominent members of the State Liquor Dealers' Association were present. They seemed to give the subject the go-by. On the contrary, the temperance people are making unusual exertions to bring a pressure upon the present Legislature. There will be a grand assemblage of temperance advocates in this city on the 25th and 25th inst. Mrs. Mattie MacBrown, Grand Worthy Chief Templar of the Independent Order of Good Templars of Ohio, head of the Order, telegraphs from the Alliance that she will be present on the occasion, together with the Executive Committee of the State, and John Russell, of Michigan, prohibition candidate for Vice President in the last Presidential election, will also appear. The new City Hall building will probably be engaged for the two days' temperance jubilee, and a general turnout of the women whiskey warriors from all parts of the State is expected.

A meeting of prominent ladies will also be held on Sunday evening to arrange a programme for their temperance campaign.

The plan now talked of is to consider each ward as a town, and labor in each by singing and prayer. Some most earnest workers favor a combined movement on the General Assembly. They favor a plan of assembling in force in the rotunda of the State House, to sing and pray until the Legislature hear their cry.

Government Attack on Whiskey Distillers.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1874.

There have been curious features in the whiskey trade for some time past, which seem to have puzzled the government agents and officials. Large quantities of raw spirits have been thrown upon the market at prices less than it is possible legitimately manufacture it and the tax to pay for it, but it has been equally impossible to detect the frauds which undoubtedly exist. To-day a case was tried before Judge Irving, of the United States Court, which seemed to throw some light on the mystery, but, strangely enough, the government lost the case. Samuel L. Herr, Silas W. Turner and James Heck, distillers, and their bondsmen, M. Turner and Isaac Hay, were sued on their bond of $30,000 for frauds alleged to have been committed in 1867 by the removal of 80,000 gallons of whiskey from their distillery at Brookville, Montgomery county, Ohio, thereby incurring a liability for taxes and penalties of $326,000. It appeared in evidence that Silas W. Turner was only twenty-one years of age at that time, and served in the capacity of agent for the Dayton and Union and the Dayton and Western roads; that he was also agent for the express companies, carried on a grocery and dry goods store, kept a large warehouse and dealt in grain, all in addition to running the distillery near Brookville. He bought 1,000 barrels of whiskey over and above that run through the distillery, and sold it for $1 25 per gallon to parties in Hamilton and Cincinnati. It was not tax-paid, and when asked how he managed to avoid the tax he said that he paid the gauger and the storekeeper $1 per barrel to let it out. Joseph M. Turner testified to buying six or eight car loads of whiskey, or about 400 barrels, and escaping the tax by compounding with the government officers in the same way. It is inscrutable how the jury, in face of the manifest frauds, found a verdict for the defendants; but the fact that all their books were consumed in the Turner Opera House, when that beautiful place of amusement was destroyed by fire, and that there was nothing to show but hard swearing, may have operated upon the minds of the jury, especially as it appeared from first to last that the firm was weak, the bondsmen rotten and the government officials themselves the rottenest of all. Remote as the cause is, in this case it serves to show how whiskey is thrown on the market at less than honest prices, and there is no doubt but it is operating now as then.

REPORTS FROM SOUTHERN OHIO and Indiana show no abatement in enthusiasm concerning the women's temperance crusade. Wherever the work is inaugurated the leading people of the community take hold of it, and once set in motion it seems to be self-supporting. Everywhere the reports indicate no lack of faith in ultimate success. Day after day women make their rounds, while large meetings of men and women remain in the churches to pray. Everywhere the temperance crusade is the exciting topic of conversation.

In Shelbyville, Ind., a lively antagonism has developed. The saloon keepers served written notices on the ladies that they would hold them for loss in business. Next day an immense meeting was held, and an incorporated company was organized, with $300,000 capital, to fight the liquor traffic legally if other means fail. The ladies then prepared a reply to the notices of the saloon keepers, charging them with destroying the business of the community, exhausting its resources, adding to the taxes, increasing crime, and defending their right to pray for the removal of such an evil.

In Muncie, Ind., intense excitement prevails. The day after the first meeting, and before the pledge had been circulated, the druggists voluntarily tendered a pledge not to sell liquor for drinking purposes. Since then two saloons have been closed. One was ousted by the owner of the property and the signatures were withdrawn from the petition for the other's license.

Leesburg, Highland county, Ohio, reports a complete suppression of the traffic after two weeks' effort. The organization is still kept up to watch efforts to open new saloons.

Cedarville, Greene county, reports one shop closed, and that the work is pushed in others without visible success.

The same report comes from Georgetown, Brown county.

Propositions have been made to make efforts in Dayton, the result of which will be watched with interest, as it is the first city of importance in which the movement will have been tried.

Dio Lewis Stirring Up the People at Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1874.

The church was densely crowded this afternoon and the Opera House to-night, the objects which drew the assemblages together being to hear a speech of Dio Lewis and to organize for more extended temperance work.

Seventy-five women visited the saloons to-day. One hundred and sixty-five more were added to the Visiting Committee to-night. A meeting for more perfect organization has been appointed for to-morrow morning.

The work has not fairly begun here yet. The movement enlists universal interest and meets with general sympathy. Lewis goes to organize in Lebanon to-morrow.

A Strong Force Organized at Xenia.

XENIA, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1874.

Four hundred women have enlisted in the temperance movement at Xenia. The organization was completed this noon, and work will be commenced to-morrow morning.

The "Wasserguild"—A New Secret Temperance Order with a National Organization—Its Object the Extermination of Small Grog Dealers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11, 1874.

A new secret order of temperance, to be called the "Wasserguild," is being organized here. Its principal objects are the urging of such legislation by Congress, and in the States and Territories, as shall greatly increase the tariff and tax on brandy, wine and malt liquor, imported, manufactured and vended, and thus have a tendency to discourage retail traffic by restaurants and restrict the same to hotels and drug stores.

The plan of the organization contemplates the institution of a Grand Guild at every State and Territorial capital, with subordinate branches in every county, and a Supreme Guild at the National Capital.

THE NAVAL DRILL.

The Exercises Yesterday—A Northern Wind Threatening to Defer Further Evolutions To-Day.

FLORIDA BAY, via KEY WEST, Feb. 11, 1874.

The naval exercises were continued to-day. They consisted of the forming of divisions into columns for battle, and passed off with very satisfactory results, having proved, so far as they progressed, gratifying to Rear Admiral Case and Commodore Parker.

There has been no breeze to-day, during the exercises, but a heavy wind is now, at five o'clock, springing up from the north. It threatens to spoil the manœuvres of to-morrow.