THE SHACKLED STATE.

Tammany Hall Denounces the Louisiana Outrage.

THE PRESS ON THE INFAMY.

ACTION OF TAMMANY GENERAL COMMITTEE.

After the transaction of the regular business of temporary organization at the meeting of the Tammany General Committee last night, the following resolution was passed on the motion of Mr. John Kelly:—

THE RESOLUTION.

To-day, in violation of law and defiance of the sacred rights guaranteed by the constitution of the United States, an armed band of men, under the so-called authority of the President, have outraged the laws and trampled upon the rights and privileges of the people of a sovereign State. The Legislature of the State of Louisiana, lawfully chosen by the people, peaceably assembled at the time and in the place designated by law and for the discharge of the duties incumbent upon them by the laws of that State, when a general of the army of the United States entered the hall and demanded, under instructions from his superior officers, that certain of the members there rightfully assembled should leave the hall. In the presence of a superior force of armed men they entered their solemn protest against this outrageous infraction of their rights and obeyed.

Now, therefore, we, the Democratic General Committee of Tammany Hall, desire to enter our solemn and earnest protest against this outrageous and flagrant violation of law, believing the words of Governor McEnery, "that such action is subversive of the republican institutions of this free country." We denounce the language of that partisan general (P. H. Sheridan) who despite the unanimous protest of the clergy, the entire business interests of that State, as represented by the Board of Underwriters and the Board of Trade, the representative people of other States temporarily residents of that city, termed and denounced a free people, in the exercise of their most sacred right, "assassins and banditti." We tender the people of that State our entire sympathy; and we pledge them our earnest co-operation in measures that will lawfully and thoroughly free them from the terrible bondage with which they are afflicted.

At the conclusion of the reading of the above by the secretary there was a striking manifestation of earnest and determined applause. The chairman stated that the resolution was before the committee for debate, but no speech was volunteered. The resolution was then put, and a unanimous and demonstrative "aye" was given by the audience that, despite of the heavy storm, crowded every part of the room.

A SOUTHERNER'S VIEWS.

Judge W. J. Cahoon, of Louisiana, who is now on a visit to this city, was yesterday visited by a representative of the HERALD to obtain his opinion of the existing difficulties in New Orleans and the action of the federal authorities. Judge Cahoon, who has always taken an active part in Louisiana politics, thought there could be but one opinion in the minds of all honest men—viz., that the action of General Sheridan and of Governor Kellogg was the most infamous and outrageous that had ever been perpetrated upon any community. General Sheridan had acted upon his own responsibility in interfering with the organization of the government of the State, predicated upon instructions received from the Executive at Washington, knowing, as he does, the desire of President Grant to make it appear that the Southern States, especially Louisiana, are republican. Another reason for Grant's action in upholding the Kellogg government and thrusting the conservative members from their rightful seats in the Legislature is to be found in his prejudice against the people of that State, evidenced by the fact that he derives all his information from his brother-in-law, J. N. Casey, who is used as an instrument in the hands of unscrupulous politicians. General Sheridan was instructed to bend the people to his will and he has not been slow to carry out his orders.

FEDERAL AUTHORITY WILL BE RESPECTED.

The people, for all they feel most strongly upon the subject, will maintain an attitude of quietude, but if McEnery, Penn and Ogden are arrested it will be a sorry thing for those who do it. Our citizens will bow to the authority of the United States, but there is no military organization which can intimidate them. They will in no case rise against the government but they may against individuals.

GRANT'S DEATH KNELL.

The result of this antagonism of Grant to all the proper feelings of humanity and justice is bound to keep Louisiana in subjection for the time being; but it has already sounded his death knell and that of republicanism, not only in the South but all over the Union. The best men belonging to the republican party have already expressed their disgust at Grant's action and their intention to secede from the party, if such diabolical outrages are to become party measures. The conservatives believe that they have found friends in the North and in Congress who will approve their action and take steps to compel justice to be done and see to it that the rights of all the peoples of the South, irrespective of color or condition, are respected.

NEW ORLEANS—GRANT AND BLAINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Your suggestion that the remarkable course taken by the President in Louisiana is perhaps due to the fact that he sees in the difficulties there something not apparent to the general public, and that he therefore acts with an extravagance not justified by what is apparent to the people at large, is liable to several interpretations, and one of them is certainly worthy the consideration of all those who would not like to see a State trampled under foot in the scramble for political precedency.

Grant does see in New Orleans more than is seen by the people generally, and what he sees is part of the game for the next nomination for the Presidency. He is not fighting the White League nor the Southern people. He is simply fighting Mr. Blaine, and the true objective point in his military operations against the Legislature is the special committee on the condition of the South. It may be remembered that this committee was ordered by the House "upon that portion of the President's message relating to the condition of the South." It was appointed December 15, and is composed of Mr. G. F. Hoar, of Massachusetts; Mr. William A. Wheeler, of New York; Mr. William P. Frye, of Maine; Mr. Charles Foster, of Ohio; Mr. William Walter Phelps, of New Jersey; Mr. James C. Robinson, of Illinois, and Mr. Clarkson N. Potter, of New York. Now this is not precisely the committee that General Butler or Attorney General Williams would have sent on the same errand. No man, indeed, who wants to have Grant "for ten terms, if he can get him," would have trusted more than one or two of these men within 500 miles of New Orleans at the present time. For these men will investigate the case honestly and report it in plain terms, and their report will lay General Grant out cold, so far as relates to his candidacy before the next republican Convention. Indeed, that document may be the formal repudiation of Grantism on the part of the republican party. That is what Mr. Blaine probably intended in the composition of that committee. They will strike at Grant, not certainly in the interest of Blaine, but of truth and the country; but if they destroy Grant as a candidate Blaine will reap the advantage.

All that possibility General Grant saw, and he believed that by vigorous measures, by "pushing things," he could head off the committee, and get an effect upon the country that would drown any mere party manœuvre. He apparently relies upon the documents that he will send to Congress to show that Louisiana was in a state of actual rebellion, and that himself and Sheridan together were the ready-handed patriots who crushed this new rebellion, even before the country heard of its existence. This is the exact size of the colored boy in that fence. PARAMUS.

VOICE OF THE PRESS.

THE REPUBLICAN SIDE.

[From the Providence Journal—Senator Anthony's organ—Jan. 6.]

If the democrats refuse to participate in the legislation that is their business; but the attitude of General Sheridan promises that they will not be permitted to interfere violently. As to the moral condition of the White League, comment is unnecessary. It has shown that it will dare everything but the general government, and it is not absolutely certain that it will yield a genuine obedience to that. Deplorable as is this state of things, there are but two ways out of it—an honest return to law and order on the part of the White League, or a government of Louisiana by the authority vested in the President. The brief message of General Sheridan discloses a condition of society which is disgraceful, unnecessary, unsafe, and which cannot be allowed in a civilized, not to say republican, nation.

[From the Boston Advertiser, Jan. 6.]

There seems to us no reasonable doubt that a majority of the people who voted at the November election voted the democratic ticket, or that a majority of democrats were legally elected to the House of Representatives by legal votes. Neither have we any doubt that there were actually irregularities and illegal votes in the parishes whose returns were not accepted by the Returning Board. But to refuse to admit democratic Representatives who were really elected by legal votes, because there were some irregular votes among them, by so doing to cause a tie in the House, and then to refer the case of the returns to a Legislature which is made republican on joint ballot, all this is a transparent trick and an insupportable outrage on the people. We cannot wonder at the anger of the democrats or at their apprehension that they were to be cheated out of the fruits of their victory by the political cheap jacks who are republican leaders in their State.

[From the Chicago Tribune, Jan. 6.]

It is perfectly evident, from the refusal of the temporary Chairman to order the yeas and nays, that the House was about evenly divided, and that the votes of the members irregularly seated were the means of democratic success. The House had, in fact, become a revolutionary body. It had come to a condition when interference was demanded, if ever; but we deeply deplore that interference actually did take place through the United States Army.

[From the Baltimore American, Jan. 6.]

We do not think that the sensible, reflecting and fair-minded people of the country are likely to be thrown off their balance by what is now going forward in New Orleans or by the flaming head lines by which it is attempted to create the impression that the country, its constitution and everything in the shape of liberty has been utterly outraged, if not annihilated. The one thing for congratulation is that riot, disorder and bloodshed have been prevented. So long as peace is thus maintained there will be opportunity for investigation, decision and settlement. What the people of Louisiana, and especially of New Orleans, most need just now is to be saved from themselves.

[From the Utica Herald, Jan. 6.]

It was a strange and shocking sight to find the army of the United States compelling the partisan organization of a State Legislature at the point of the bayonet. * * * Thus another blunder, greatest of all, has been added to the series of blunders—blunders divided about equally between both political parties that have well nigh ruined Louisiana. The republican party must either disown this blunder or accept the consequences that will inevitably be visited by an aroused and indignant people.

[From the Philadelphia Press, Jan. 7.]

To-day, to put it very temperately, it is a matter of doubt whether any use of the military has been made to which a good citizen can take exception.

[From the Springfield Republican.]

The question is not at all whether the proceedings of the conservatives in the Louisiana Legislature were regular and legal. That is a side issue, and it has been dwarfed into insignificance. Accepting every statement Kellogg, his fellow conspirators and their apologists make as gospel truth, the American people will still find themselves, so far as the main issue is concerned, precisely where they would have been had no such statements been heard of. The question is, Shall the President of the United States be permitted to organize State Legislatures to suit himself by the illegal use of the United States Army? It behooves American citizens in all the States not to underrate the gravity of this question.

[From the Cleveland Herald—republican.]

The situation in the South is grave enough, but we hope it has not come to that pass. We are not ready for it. The people of the North, republicans or democrats, are not prepared for the re-establishment of military rule in the South after the fashion which General Sheridan suggests. There are ruffians among the White League, there is a rampant rebellious spirit among a class of Southern people who would not like to be classed among the ruffianly element, and it may be that strong measures will become necessary to keep the ruffianly and rebellious elements in subjection; but it is not now the time for such violent measures as are suggested in General Sheridan's despatch.

THE DEMOCRATIC SIDE.

[From the Boston Post, Jan. 6.]

It is plain to see that no majority whatever against the rule of Kellogg and those who stand behind him would have made the least difference with the course of the selfish, sullen and tyrannical power that has its seat and centre at Washington. No forms of law, no evidences of the popular will, no circumstances of suffering and wrong, would have moved the cold military spirit which has fastened itself on the South, and has for years been making a once prosperous State like Louisiana its prey. Of course this plot against local government could never be consummated without the active co-operation of the federal Executive. The despatch of General Sheridan to New Orleans shows the headquarters of the wicked design.

[From the Harrisburg Patriot, Jan. 6.]

Blind as the republican party has been to the drift of its insane attempt to substitute at the South a government of force for a government of law, we know right well that an instinctive manhood will rally its members against this last instance of despotism. The soldiers were ashamed of their work. The mass of the people will brook no further delay on the part of Congress in stamping out this monstrous injustice. With this precedent standing executive authority has transcended all restraint and a military despotism has replaced a constitutional government.

[From the Baltimore Gazette, Jan. 6.]

We have now come to that point when every member of the opposition, in both houses of Congress, must take united action. It is incumbent on them to meet at once and demand of the President the immediate recall of Sheridan and the dismissal of Williams from the Attorney Generalship. If this is denied they should draw up articles of impeachment against Grant and issue an appeal to the country. If we have not mistaken the temper of the people—not only in the Middle States, but at the North and West—the response would be prompt and the support overwhelming.

[From the Worcester (Mass.) Press, Jan. 6.]

Grant is at the bottom of this outrage. It is the boldest step he has yet taken toward the consummation of that scheme which is now uppermost in his ignorant head and traitorous heart—a scheme to make himself the lie ruler of this land, with almost absolute control of its destinies. This outrageous act, a little bolder than any heretofore committed, is a "feeler" thrown out to test the temper of the people. He is now waiting to learn how it is received. If the people of the North quietly submit to this act of treason and usurpation his next act will be a little bolder; he will attempt something a little higher in the scale that leads to absolute power.

[From the Chicago Times, Jan. 6.]

What the next movement will be no one can foretell. Nothing can be expected from Congress, which is the only power capable of affording relief. A Congressional Committee is at present investigating the condition of affairs, but it is composed of partisans of Kellogg and Grant who will not dare to run counter to their party. Congress, too, is interested in maintaining the present usurpation. The republican party is on its last legs, and Louisiana casts a few votes in its favor. Sooner than lose these votes the republican party will abet any iniquity, no matter how great. But the people of the State will not submit to being thus oppressed. Like the worm trodden upon they will turn upon their oppressors and wreak such a vengeance as may seem to them fit. What form that retribution will take the future alone can develop.

[From the Newark (N. J.) Journal, Jan. 6.]

The third term got a bad shaking up last November; but Grant cares nothing for popular opinion, nothing for the true meaning of the elections. His will is paramount to everything. He still has the third term jim-jam. By day and night it haunts him. How can the coveted object be reached? We see no way under heaven except by his overthrowing the government of the United States—doing for himself in New York, New Jersey, New England and all the States what he has done with so high and iron-gloved a hand for Kellogg and brother-in-law Casey in Louisiana.

[From the Buffalo Courier, Jan. 6.]

We congratulate the people of Louisiana and the friends of liberty that, smarting under the sting of the frauds practiced upon them and the terrible reverse which has come over their liberty, trade and industry, they have refrained from any act of violence against the United States. They have suffered and been strong. A conflict with the national forces could only have brought upon them again worse horror of war than they ever yet endured, have given their oppressors another pretext for tyranny, and excited Northern sentiment against those now known and admitted to have been treated with shameless cruelty and injustice. At worst they can now only have to wait for relief until soon after the assembling of the Forty-fourth Congress. * * * The country regards Sheridan as a very flaming sword of valor, but just now it sees him wielded by hands foul with the vilest of crimes and for the further oppression of a deeply wronged community. The sympathies of the loyal people should go forth in this case. Well were it if Sheridan were—not twenty—but twenty thousand miles—"away" from such a post of dubious duty!

[From the Hartford Courant—Congressman Hawley's paper), Jan. 6.]

The question which is of chief interest to all good citizens is how far this remarkable interference of United States officers and troops in the affairs of a State was justified. No right-minded person can fail to condemn the outrage attempted by the democrats. Even if it is proven that the returns were falsified by a partisan Returning Board there was no excuse for the illegal manner in which the control of the House was sought. But, so far as the facts are yet known, we believe it would have been better for the republicans to have submitted with a protest, and carried the matter to the courts, than for the resort to have been made to the general government. There is no doubt that General Sheridan is correct in his announcement to the President that a spirit of defiance to all lawful authority and great insecurity of life exist in the South. Neither can there be reasonable doubt that but for the presence of United States troops in New Orleans there would have been the usual slaughter of colored people to mark the opening of the Legislature. So far the action of the President was commendable and necessary, but it will require a fuller statement than has yet been given to make the arbitrary interference with the Legislature appear entirely justifiable.

THE INDEPENDENT PRESS.

[From the Baltimore Sun, Jan. 6.]

The fact that the people of Louisiana do not defy even unlawful authority is strikingly evinced by the profound quiet with which they have submitted to the most palpable subversion of civil by military power ever witnessed in the United States, and is the sufficient answer to Sheridan's slanderous and malignant allegations. From all that has occurred up to this time it is clear that the only "spirit of defiance to all lawful authority" in New Orleans is that which the military have exhibited in taking possession of a State Legislature and its members, and that the only "insecurity of life" is from the man whose appointment to his present position was hailed by his special admirers on the ground that "somebody might be hurt."

[From the Philadelphia Telegraph, Jan. 6.]

It is not necessary, perhaps, to mention that the Lieutenant General has been excited to the pitch of writing execrable English by the White Leaguers, and that the obnoxious individuals whom he suspects of being banditti are "the ringleaders of the armed White Leagues." What Sheridan will think of the merchants of New Orleans now that they have branded him as a liar, or, to use their very courteous words, accused him of giving "utterance to statements singularly at variance with the condition of things," we cannot imagine and will not attempt to predict.

OBITUARY.

FREDERICK WILLIAM, ELECTOR OF HESSE.

A cable report from Berlin, under date of yesterday, the 7th inst., announces the death of Frederick William, Elector of Hesse. The Elector and Landegrave of Hesse, Frederick William, was born on the 20th of August, in the year 1802. He was, consequently, seventy-two years of age at the time of his decease—five years younger than Kaiser William, with whom he has witnessed many important changes in the governments of Europe, and shared the excitements of some of the most stirring phases in the history of Prussia. Having served as co-regent in the Electorate of Hesse he succeeded to full power on the 20th November, 1847.

The Elector contracted a morganatic marriage with Gertrude Falkenstein, created Princess de Hanau and Countess de Schumbourg in the year 1831; but was again married to a Princess of the royal house of Prussia. The first named lady was the divorced wife of a Prussian officer. He had many children born to him. He descended in a direct line from Henry I., the common ancestor of the three families of Hesse. His successor is Prince Frederick, one of his cousins. The Elector distinguished himself by his reactionary ardor in 1849, during the Ministry of the notorious Hassenpflug. The country of the Electorate of Hesse was invaded by the Prussian troops in the month of June, 1866, Bismarck then suspecting that the Elector was endeavoring to stand on the "fence" with Hesse between Prussia and Austria. The English people approved of the act at the moment. The Berlin correspondent of the London *Times*, writing on the 17th of June, 1866, said:—"The Electorate of Hesse has been invaded on account of its sovereign having made no answer at all to the Prussian summons. The Elector was packing up his plate and preparing to leave for Frankfort, but the people showed that they did not intend to let him off quite so easily. Crowds assembled, raising revolutionary cries, and vowing they would make him share in the sufferings he had entailed upon them by meddling with the war. This 17th of June may prove to be the last day of his reign. Prince Frederick William of Hesse-Cassel, his nephew and heir presumptive, was yesterday summoned to Berlin and offered the regency of the Electorate, after the anticipated flight or expulsion of his royal uncle. The Prince, whose wife is a sister of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, the Commander-in-Chief in Saxony, is said to have assented, and as the people of Hesse-Cassel are sure to welcome to the throne any successor of the despicable tyrant now trembling in his palace, the change of sovereign contemplated by Count Bismarck is likely to take place within a few days. The old Elector, whose character is a moral enormity in this nineteenth century of ours, has not only violated for years every clause of the constitution he had taken the oath to observe, but by the crying immorality of his family life become the horror and abomination of all Germany. Some six years ago Count Bernstorff, then Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs, compelled him to restore the constitution, which at that time he had presumed to abolish altogether. He yielded to force, recognized the charter afresh, but, being by the change of government in this country allowed to indulge his evil propensities once more, took his revenge in a way unprecedented in the annals even of German royalty. He struck, if not for wages, at least for absolutism. For years past he has neither sanctioned any of the laws proposed by his Chamber nor allowed his government to introduce any bills. While thus endeavoring to ruin his subjects, whom he bitterly hates for having repeatedly restrained his innate depravity, he was known to beat his wife and servants, and in a number of well authenticated instances to have been subjected to acts of retributive justice by his impatient victims. Nay, the very streets of Cassel and Frankfort have witnessed personal encounters between the stammering, squinting holder of arbitrary power and his subjects, who, by the combined pressure of Austria, Prussia and the Bund, were prevented from ousting him from his dominions. How he came by his wife, a morganatic lady, and how he behaved to his father and his sons, and how his sons requited his many acts of paternal tenderness I will not here detail. Suffice it to say that his Court has been a standing scandal in this part of the world; that both he and his have long been cut off from all intercourse with their equals and that his reign has, more than anything else, contributed to lower the institution of royalty in the eyes of the nation." Imperial Germany has since settled the scandals and the properties of the Elector, and now he has gone to his account at the great tribunal of all.

REV. ALEXANDER NESBITT.

This most promising and popular young pastor, who was only in the commencement of his clerical career, died yesterday at his residence in Tremont, N. Y. He ministered to the congregation of the First Presbyterian church in that place with so much zeal and efficiency that his congregation became warmly attached to him. It was in the discharge of his clerical duties that he contracted the disease which led to his early demise while just in the flush of manhood. As a preacher he was earnest, forcible and eloquent. His sermons attracted to his church many who were not communicants, but who were deeply impressed. His death is regarded as a public loss in Tremont, where he leaves a large circle of warm friends.

DR. JOSIAH CROSBY.

Dr. Josiah Crosby, one of the ablest physicians and surgeons of New Hampshire, and for many years the leader of the profession at Manchester, died in that city, of paralysis, at four o'clock yesterday morning.

W. S. PIKE.

W. S. Pike, a well known banker of New Orleans, died in that city yesterday. He was carried from life by the effects of a stroke of paralysis. Mr. Pike was widely known in the financial world, and was greatly respected by his fellow citizens and the mercantile community at large.

THE STATE CAPITAL

Committee Appointments Uppermost.

The Governor Expected to Speak on Louisiana.

WHO WILL BE SENATOR?

Close Race Between Murphy and Kernan.

ALBANY, Jan 7, 1875.

There was a general clearing out here last night and this morning of members of Assembly, lobbyists and others interested in legislative matters. Speaker McGuire left on the nine o'clock train for New York to-day, and of course the canvass for positions on committees will be transferred to that city. It is the merest speculation, so far, as to the names of the gentlemen slated for the chairmanships of the more important committees. People who seem to know more than anybody else, and who whisper mysteriously through the corridors of hotels and around the halls of the Capitol building prophesy the name of this gentleman and that, but nothing in this direction has yet taken any definite shape. Mr. Maguire having put his foot down emphatically on preliminary pledges in the contest for the Speakership, is entirely untrammelled, and will appoint none but the best men for the various positions. If Mr. Davis goes on the Canal Committee we may hear of some rich and rare developments from that quarter. There is a nest of corruption and robbery to be unearthed, recalling the most palmy days of the New York Ring.

THE LOUISIANA TROUBLES.

Among the few leading politicians who congregate here to-day the subject of the troubles in Louisiana is vigorously canvassed. Democrats claim the outrage one as of a character to sink forever any attempt at resurrection of the republican party. General Sheridan's conduct is looked upon as the emanation of a diseased brain—that of a military tyrant who looks upon everything in a despotic light peculiar to his training. If the despatches from New Orleans are a true reflex of the condition of affairs there, then the democrats claim that an opportunity has arisen for their party which will insure certain victory in the campaign of 1876. Moderation and well digested action, however, is advised. Hasty condemnation and sensational preambles and resolutions are decried.

GOVERNOR TILDEN'S POSITION.

The sentiments of Governor Tilden on the alleged outrages have not yet transpired. In an official sense he is still thoroughly non-committal. Some say that the controversy will be the occasion of a special message to the Legislature at its assembling on Tuesday next. As I stated in my despatches of yesterday, the New York delegation will, through their chairman, Mr. James Daley, introduce condemnatory resolutions into the Assembly on Tuesday. Those resolutions will embrace in unmistakable phraseology the strongest censure of the administration policy in New Orleans.

THE UNITED STATES SENATORSHIP.

This is the main topic of discussion here now among the few politicians that remain. The Kings county men, headed by Mr. William A. Fowler and Mr. William C. Kingsley, are still on hand at the Delavan House. Congressman Bliss returned home this afternoon, having received news of the serious illness of his brother. The claims of Mr. Henry C. Murphy are pressed with all the vehemence that argument and philosophy can bring to bear upon them. In conversation with one of the Kings county leaders to-day he expressed himself as confident of the election of Mr. Murphy. Of course the friends of Mr. Kernan are equally sanguine. They say that Mr. Seymour is out of the field without doubt, and that the influence of the gentleman will be most effectually thrown in the balance for Mr. Kernan. Mr. Murphy's friends, on the other hand, assert that Governor Seymour will take no part whatever in the campaign. They seem to think that a great change has come over the prospects of the various candidates within the past week. The prestige and importance attached to the name of Governor Seymour cannot be transferred by him to Francis Kernan. A number of politicians throughout the State, and members of the Legislature are said to be here with letters in their pockets from Governor Seymour declaring, in most emphatic terms, his unalterable determination not to enter the field or have anything to do with the office of Senator, and that, so far as he is concerned, he will not accept the position.

The country opposition to Tammany Hall is still no doubt intense. Outside of the New York delegation, who seem very quiet on the subject, and some few others, the Kernan strength, so far as I can judge at present, seems to be rather feeble. The friends of Mr. Murphy, and those of Judge Wheaton, of Poughkeepsie, jointly controlling the river counties, seem to be acting together in support of the former gentleman. The candidate, taking this view of the case, then comes to Albany with the consolidated strength of the river counties and both these elements behind. This gives him, taking the vote of the Second Judicial district, comprising the river counties, together with Kings, Queens and Richmond, fifty as many votes as Mr. Kelly brings from New York for Mr. Kernan.

The contest is, therefore, to be fought out in the interior of the State. If there is to be a free field and no favor the Kings county men claim that they can win easily.

COMING EVENTS.

As this must become one of the most important sessions of the Legislature held for many years the public eye will watch its operations with considerable interest. In committees, of course, the great work of the Legislature centres. Here many a bill is smothered, many a scheme hatched and many a dollar changes hands. The lobby, gracefully, adroitly and systematically, are already in town. They are somewhat at sea as to the particular class of legislation where their tender efforts will be most needed. But time will shortly develop the necessary information on that point.

THE INSURANCE INTEREST.

One of the most important committees of the House will be that appointed to look after insurance matters. There are now a number of companies in New York city rotten to the core, and which ought to have been in the hands of a receiver long since. Their names and standing must appear in proper time. When the crash comes, if the committee does its duty, a good many will be surprised.

THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS.

THE MANNER IN WHICH OLD NEW YORK CELEBRATED THE ANNIVERSARY.

Sixty years ago to-day a memorable battle in the history of the United States took place within a few miles of New Orleans, in which a veteran English army, the pick of troops who had earned renown during the Napoleonic wars, was defeated and their experienced and gallant commander slain by a devoted band of Americans, much inferior in numbers, but led by a general who united the indomitable will of the natural commander with the genius of the backwood's bushfighter, ready to make the most of every available means of offence and defence of which the situation was susceptible.

New Orleans is at this moment the name of a city on every tongue. It is very true that the conflict in 1815 was unnecessary to settle any point, for a few days before a treaty of peace was signed by the plenipotentiaries of the United States and Great Britain at Ghent; but still it must be remembered that if the result of the engagement had been different the Mississippi might possibly be now the western boundary of the Republic. At all events the credit of American arms was then finally established, and American prowess in the field has remained since 1815 up to this time unquestioned.

The anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans for many years after its occurrence was celebrated in New York by civic and military displays, in which the Tammany Society took a prominent part. Going back not much over thirty years it will be found that the State troops in this city were paraded under orders from the major general commanding, the national flag was hoisted at the Battery, and salutes fired in honor of the day. In later years the recollections of the anniversary seem to have grown faint. Still the Tammany Society by its festive gatherings commemorates the eventful day on which Andrew Jackson's little army before the Crescent City humbled the flower of the British veterans under Pakenham. After the commencement of the late civil war the popular practice of celebrating the victory in this city fell almost into disuse, and it has so continued up to the present time.

THE CARPET-MAKERS' STRIKE.

The carpet operators in Higgins & Co.'s carpet factory, who struck some weeks ago on account of the reduction of wages from ten to fifteen per cent, held their final meeting yesterday to determine upon a compromise the firm had offered to make. After a number of speeches pro and con., the workmen finally consented to return to work on Monday morning next at a reduction of five per cent for first class workmen, the other reductions to be graded down according to wages. The firm accepted the terms.

DEMOCRATIC MASSACHUSETTS

INAUGURATION OF GOVERNOR GASTON—THE MESSAGE.

BOSTON, Jan. 7, 1875.

The rare spectacle of the inauguration of a democratic Governor in Massachusetts was witnessed here to-day. No such event having occurred for nearly a generation the occasion was fraught with considerable interest, and the attendance of visitors was unusually large. Both galleries of the House of Representatives were filled with ladies and gentlemen, and very many who came were unable to gain admittance. In the body of the House there were the Justices of the Supreme Court and various other civil as well as military dignitaries. It was expected that King Kalakaua and his suite would be present, but a previous engagement to visit Lowell interfered. The oath of office having been administered Governor Gaston proceeded with his inaugural address, an abstract of which is appended.

In commencing his address to the Legislature the Governor remarked that the legislators entered upon their duties at a time when the people were more anxious for honest and intelligent legislation and for a prompt and faithful execution of the laws than they were for political victory or party supremacy. He recognized the fact that the war was ended and that we should now direct our energies to the interests of the present and future, and seek by prudent measures to give vigor to the industries, trade and commerce of the people. He denounced inflation, insisted upon ability and absolute purity in the public service, and opposed the encroachments of federal power and the tendencies toward centralization, and resistance to all the claims and exactions of an unprincipled partisanship. He also favored the protection of the negro, and opposed federal interference with the elections.

THE STATE DEBT.

In alluding to the State finances, he reported the debt at $29,500,000, one-half of which has been contracted for the purpose of assisting railroad enterprises. The sinking fund, created for its redemption, is $11,000,000, so that the net debt is about $19,000,000. Economy was urged in the expenditures of the future.

ART EDUCATION.

In his remarks on education the Governor said:—"There is a form of education which is rapidly gaining favor elsewhere, and which I rejoice to know has not been neglected here. I refer to what is ordinarily called art education. This is not confined to instruction in that kind of art which simply gratifies the taste. Although the possession of the products of this form of art has been largely confined to those who have private wealth, and although its cultivation has been supposed to be intended largely for their gratification, yet, if the time ever existed, it has certainly long since passed when the love of art and the taste for it were the exclusive possessions of the rich or the highly cultivated. I regard the legislation already adopted on this subject as of great importance to the moral and material interests of the people of Massachusetts. There is no stronger safeguard for the protection and preservation of the high character of a people than the full employment of their powers on objects worthy of pursuit, and their manliness and independence have no greater security than a well-founded consciousness of their ability to meet with credit and success all honorable competition and rivalry. The prominent position of the French nation in manufactures requiring the highest taste and skill was made most apparent at the Exposition in London in 1851. At that time Great Britain, in her own capital, in this class of manufactures was found among the great nations to be below all other exhibitors except the United States of America. This disclosure stimulated the pride and courage of the English government and people and induced them to start art schools, the result of whose training was manifest at the Exposition in Paris in 1867, when Great Britain was placed among the first of her distinguished rivals. With Germany and many other countries of Continental Europe the same spirit prevails, and to-day we are far behind all of these countries in the development of the skill which commands the markets of the world by its fabrics of taste and beauty."

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW AND STATE CONSTABULARY.

The Governor denounced the Prohibitory Liquor law as a failure, after twenty years' experience, and recommended its repeal and the enactment of a stringent license law. He also favored the abolition of the State constabulary and the creation of a police detective force.

THE HOOSAC TUNNEL.

He believed the policy of the State in the matter of the Hoosac tunnel should be to connect the tunnel and the railroad, which belongs to it, to other important railroads, and make the property owned by the State part of a through line. The Governor and Council have made a settlement with W. & F. Shanly, the contractors for the completion of the tunnel, and it has been surrendered by them to the State. The entire amount of the contract was $4,594,268. In the settlement a deduction was made on account of railway track not laid and on account of the unfinished condition of the central drain. This deduction amounted to $36,547. The previous payments had amounted to $4,101,705. The balance of $456,014 was paid on the 22d day of December last. The contractors presented a claim for extra work amounting to $70,404, upon which the sum of $27,115 was allowed and paid. They have given notice that they shall make application to the Legislature for the payment of the balance of this claim and for the payment of certain other claims which they regard as equitable. The whole amount of the claim which they intend to present is, as I have been informed, about $126,000. The total amount of payments from the Treasury on account of the railroad and tunnel up to January 1, 1875, including interest paid on scrip issued, was, after deducting receipts for rents, &c., $12,973,822.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS.

The year upon which we are now entering will be one of peculiar interest to the American people, and especially to the people of our own Commonwealth, as it completes the century from the opening scenes of the war of the Revolution. To the celebration of this great event, which will occur in Philadelphia in the year 1876, I invite the attention of the Legislature. As we are passing from the first century of our existence as free and independent States, and are about stepping upon the threshold of the second, it certainly is an appropriate time for us to look back to our early history and seek from it, as we well may, a guide for the future. This centennial anniversary will be of incalculable benefit if it shall recall to our minds that primitive time when high office was held as a great and sacred trust, and when official position was sought for the opportunity which it furnished for honest and faithful public service and not as a means of personal emolument or gain.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.

INAUGURATION AND MESSAGE OF GOVERNOR DINGLEY.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 7, 1875.

Governor Dingley was inaugurated to-day. His Message places the receipts of the State during the past year at $1,853,904, and disbursements $1,537,719. Of this amount $714,426 was on account of the war debt, and $407,477 on account of schools. The ordinary expenditures, therefore, during the past year have been $320,694, or a little less than one and a half mills on the dollar of State valuation. The debt is now, after deducting sinking funds, $5,561,076—a reduction of $321,575 during the past year. In ten years nearly $7,000,000 has been paid by the people of Maine on account of the State debt, nearly $3,000,000 being for the reduction of principal, and $4,000,000 on account of interest. Should the present rate of taxation be continued the balance of this debt will be extinguished in 1888. The Governor favors equalization of taxation on railroads, banks and corporations, so that all expenditures may be met without assessing a dollar on the towns and cities.

He urges the enforcement of the collection of taxes from delinquent railroads, $90,000 remaining unpaid out of $105,069 assessed last year; favors the increase of the license fees of insurance companies doing business in the State. If these suggestions are enforced a State tax of three and one half mills on the dollar instead of four, would be sufficient to meet all State expenditures.

He suggests that the divorce laws be reformed; the adoption of an enabling act recognizing the eligibility of women to office and a revision of the State constitution.

The educational affairs of the State are in a most prosperous condition.

He deplores the fact that the trustees of savings institutions have thought it necessary or advisable to invest out of the State $11,500,000, or more than one-third of the deposits of the people of Maine—capital which is needed at home for the development of the abundant resources of the State.

[NOTE.—The apparent discrepancy in figures in the above is explained by the fact that $95,122 in expenditures is covered by special and exceptional appropriations, not ordinary expenses. The body of the Message did not account for this.—ASS. PRESS.]

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE.

GOVERNOR BAYLEY'S MESSAGE.

LANSING, Jan. 7, 1875.

Governor Bayley read his message to the Legislature this morning. It is a lengthy and important paper, devoted entirely to State affairs with the exception of a statement that an invitation has been received to participate in the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. The financial exhibit is gratifying, faithfully fulfilling every requirement of the organic law, paying every obligation as it matures, providing in advance for every appropriation, creating no new debt and renewing no old one.

A WESTCHESTER TRAGEDY.

Murder of a Night Watchman by Burglars Near Tarrytown.

Footprints Found in the Snow—Singular Direction of a Bullet Through the Body.

The circumstances of a somewhat mysterious shooting affray, attended with fatal consequences, and which will in all probability prove to be an atrocious murder, transpired near Tarrytown, Westchester county, yesterday afternoon. Greenburg, the town in which the village above named is located, has, as is well known, been the scene of numerous burglaries during the past few weeks. In short, it may be stated that these felonies are of almost nightly occurrence, and, as a consequence, all those who can afford it, have their premises guarded by private watchmen while the inmates slumber.

Situated on the bank of the Hudson River, about a mile south of Tarrytown, and perhaps the same distance from Sunnyside, the home of the late Washington Irving, is the country seat of Mr. William Hoge, President of the St. Louis, Kansas City and Northern Missouri Railroad. The house has been closed for some months past, owing to the absence of the owner and his family. A servant man, named William McMullen, aged about twenty-eight, and who is said to have been a Canadian by birth, was left in charge of the place, and slept there every night for the purpose of watching the property. He was armed with a six-barelled revolver, given him when he undertook the duty of night watchman by Captain Herring, a brother-in-law of Mr. Hoge, and who resides about a quarter of a mile distant from the house of the last named gentleman.

HOW THE SHOOTING OCCURRED.

Shortly after eight o'clock on Tuesday evening McMullen suddenly entered the residence of Captain Herring in a state of great terror and physical exhaustion, crying wildly that he had been shot by a burglar at the house of his employer. As the unfortunate man appeared to be suffering intensely from his injuries, a physician named Furman was hastily summoned from Tarrytown, and he, upon examination, found that McMullen had been shot, the ball entering the right side of the abdomen, near the groin, and, after passing through the body, had emerged from the back, near the hip bone, some three or four inches above the point it had entered. It has not transpired what course of treatment the physician adopted, but from the fact that he failed to notify either a coroner or a justice of the peace, to the end that the ante-mortem statement of

THE WOUNDED MAN

might be formally taken, it is presumed that he failed to comprehend the fact that his patient was mortally injured. The physician named, however, it is said, called in two of his professional brethren, and there is little doubt that the man had the advantages of skillful surgical treatment. This availed but little, as McMullen lingered in great agony until yesterday afternoon, when he expired. Many of the intelligent residents of Tarrytown expressed their surprise to the HERALD representative that none of the physicians who attended the dying man made the case known to the authorities, as it is now not improbable that through their omission the ends of justice may be defeated.

In regard to the manner in which he was shot, the deceased stated in substance that a little before eight o'clock on Tuesday evening, he, as was his custom, went over to the residence of Mr. Hoge, and having let himself in, he proceeded down stairs to the apartment in which he usually slept. After lighting his candle he heard a noise as though some person or persons were walking on the piazza above him. At first supposing that it was a young man named Goodlet, a coachman in the neighborhood, who had promised to come and sleep with him that night, McMullen went out and walked toward that portion of the piazza where he had heard the footsteps. He at once perceived, in the dim moonlight, a tall man standing up against the house, close to the door, as though he was endeavoring to screen himself from observation.

A BURGLAR'S AIM.

Almost at the same instant McMullen said, he observed another and a shorter man on the porch a little distance off. Totally unapprehensive of an attack, McMullen walked briskly toward the first mentioned individual for the purpose of seeing whether he could recognize him, and had approached within two feet of him when the latter fired and shot him, with the effect already stated. Utterly terrified, McMullen, on receiving his death wound, turned and fled precipitately from the spot, shouting for assistance, until he reached the house of Captain Herring.

On