THE RIFLEMEN IN IRELAND.

THE AMERICAN SHARPSHOOTERS IN THE SANCTUARY OF THE CHURCH MILITANT.

DUBLIN, June 20, 1875.

The American riflemen, by invitation of the Lord Mayor, attended divine service to-day at St. Patrick's (Protestant) cathedral.

THE DISESTABLISHED CHURCH STILL MONARCHICAL AND MILITANT.

The sermon, which was preached by Canon Keeper, was a eulogy of monarchy and the Established Church.

Residents of the city comment severely on the speaker's taste.

AT THE MANSION OF THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE.

In the evening the visitors enjoyed the hospitalities of the Lord Mayor's mansion.

BRITISH AND IRISH RIFLEMEN IN CONTEST.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE TROPHY WON BY THE SCOTTISH MARKSMEN.

LONDON, June 20, 1875.

A contest took place at Edinburgh on Saturday between the riflemen of England, Ireland and Scotland for the International Challenge Trophy. Scotland won by twenty points ahead of England and 139 ahead of Ireland.

FRANCE.

THE ELECTORAL BILL BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THIRTY—M. GAMBETTA AND THE BONAPARTISTS IN PARLIAMENTARY COLLISION—A CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION UP FOR DEBATE.

PARIS, June 20, 1875.

The Committee of Thirty have been considering the Electoral bill.

They have decided to maintain the system of voting by departments.

M. GAMBETTA'S WAR FINANCE.

In the Assembly yesterday violent recriminations passed between M. Gambetta and the Bonapartists as to the responsibility for the extraordinary taxation made necessary by the late war.

AN IMPORTANT DEBATE AT HAND.

The Assembly has decided to take up the Public Powers bill to-morrow for debate.

THE GOVERNMENT TO PROPOSE A GENERAL ELECTION—THE ASSEMBLY LIKELY TO VOTE ITS LEGISLATIVE DISSOLUTION.

LONDON, June 21—5:30 A. M.

A special despatch from Paris to the *Standard* says there is reason to believe that the government has decided that a general election shall be held this year, and there is no doubt that the Assembly will vote for a final dissolution, as the government assents to it.

THE FIRE IN DUBLIN.

FATAL CONSEQUENCES OF WHISKEY DRINKING DURING THE CONFLAGRATION.

DUBLIN, June 20, 1875.

Three persons have died from the effects of drinking whiskey at the fire on Friday night, and seventeen are in hospital for the same cause.

THE UNITED STATES FLAG ABROAD.

LONDON, June 20, 1875.

The United States steamer Juniata has arrived at Cuxhaven.

CUBA.

HAVANA, June 20, 1875.

Captain General Valmaseda left for the interior this morning.

POLITICAL EXILES.

ARRIVAL AT CHARLESTON, S. C., OF DISTINGUISHED REFUGEES FROM URUGUAY—THE STORY OF THEIR BANISHMENT—INHOSPITALITY OF THE SPANIARDS IN CUBA.

CHARLESTON, S. C., June 20, 1875.

The Uruguayan bark Perig, from Montevideo, arrived at this port yesterday, via Havana, having on board the following distinguished exiles from the Republic of Uruguay:—Julio Herrara y Obes, Senator and ex-Minister; Juan R. Gomez, Senator and Minister; Juan José De Herrera, Senator, ex-Minister and journalist; José P. Ramirez, Advocate and Deputy; Augustin De Vedia, Deputy and journalist; Anselmo Dupont, journalist; Octavius Ramirez, Lieutenant Colonel; Oswaldo Rodriguez, Captain; Aurelius Rodriguez, Advocate; Carlos Grumendes, Captain; Candido Robida, Major; José Campana, Surgeon; Fortunato Flores, colonel; Eduardo Flores, journalist; Segundo Flores, major; Ricardo Flores, captain. The four latter are sons of General Flores, who was assassinated in the Uruguayan revolution of 1868. The whole party are under the charge of Colonels Curtin and Zucnelli. They give the following

ACCOUNT OF THEIR BANISHMENT.

On the 15th of February last, Don Elluari, President of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, was deposed by a military insurrection, by which Pedro Variela was put in power. On the 24th of the same month these persons were notified to prepare for departure, and on the 26th were arrested and placed on board the Perig, which was immediately sent off to Havana. They arrived at Havana on the 30th of May, but the Spanish authorities refused an asylum to them on suspicion of their being exiles. A Spanish man-of-war was sent to the bark Perig, and towed her to sea, despite the protests of the Captain that his vessel was unseaworthy and provisions short. The Perig then made for this port and arrived on the 18th inst.

All the exiles have landed. The Flores brothers left for New York to-night in company with Colonel Curtin and Colonel Zucnelli. The rest of the party will remain here for a day or two and will then go on to New York, whence they expect to return to Uruguay. They have been warmly received by the citizens of Charleston.

THE CAHOONE MYSTERY.

THE MERTON LETTER A FORGERY—DIABOLICAL ATTEMPT TO IMPLICATE AN INNOCENT MAN—DISAPPEARANCE OF THE SCOUNDREL.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 20, 1875.

The excitement here over the republication of the HERALD's article, conveying a strong inference that Joseph E. Munroe, a prominent diamond jeweller of this city, was directly responsible for the death of Calvin G. Cahoone, of this city, near Trois Rivieres, Canada, a year ago, is somewhat allayed to-night by the official announcement that the incupatory letter, signed "Henry J. Merton," was a forgery. Before the HERALD's article appeared the police of this city were informed of the essential facts of the article, and, assisted by Montreal officers, the chief of whom was a brother of the captain of the steamer from which Mr. Cahoone fell, had thoroughly

INVESTIGATED THE CASE

without finding any clew to Merton. A few days ago Detective Swan, of this city, was informed that the author of the letter was Dr. J. M. Goldsburg, a chiropodist of this city, and that he had employed a printer named Fallinsbee, of the Taunton *Gazette*, to copy the letter. Fallinsbee admitted to the officer that he wrote the letter several months ago, Goldsburg stating that it was a joke. Goldsburg left town the day that the Merton letter was published, and has not since been seen. Mr. Munroe has been rendered almost insane by the charge against him.

THE RAILROAD WAR.

RESULTS OF THE RECENT CONFERENCE IN PHILADELPHIA.

BALTIMORE, Md., June 20, 1875.

It is learned on good authority to-night that as a result of the conference on Saturday in Philadelphia between the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania Railroad ticket and freight agents, the rates on western bound freights will be advanced to-morrow in Philadelphia and Baltimore, and that the rates will be further advanced in a few days. There will be no change in passenger rates for a day or two.

ALLEGED DEFALCATION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., June 20, 1875.

Jean Miller, Secretary of the Contract and Finance Company of the Central Pacific Railroad, was arrested on the train yesterday at Marysville and taken to San Francisco by a special train. It is rumored that he is a defaulter to the amount of $200,000. The cause is said to be stock speculations. The company are very reticent.

WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, June 20, 1875.

PROPOSED EFFORT TO REDUCE THE TELEGRAPH RATES CHARGED THE GOVERNMENT.

Postmaster General Jewell is expected to return to Washington on Saturday next. As soon as practicable thereafter he will invite the presidents of the three principal telegraph companies to meet him here for consultation, with a view to obtaining a reduction in the present telegraph rates charged the government. The government now pays one cent per word, including addresses and signatures, for a circuit of 250 miles, in some instances the addresses being counted. This brings the rates to a price even greater than those charged private individuals for single messages, and it is, therefore, the intention of the Postmaster General to ask for a modification of this arrangement. The meeting will probably take place the coming week, unless his return is delayed beyond his present intention.

THE MAIL CONTRACT FRAUDS—ACQUITTAL OF HINDS.

Jerome J. Hinds, charged with bribing Frank S. Channel, a clerk in the Post Office Department, in connection with the fraudulent mail bids, has been acquitted. It is not known whether the government will prosecute Hinds on the other cases against him or not, though it is thought that this being one of the strongest cases, and, failing to convict, a *nolle prosequi* will be entered concerning them. Of all the parties concerned in the mail bid frauds (Kettle being the principal) Hinds was the only one indicted, the others appearing as witnesses against him.

THE CONDITION OF THE NATIONAL BANKS—ABSTRACT OF REPORTS MADE TO THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.

The following is an abstract of the reports made to the Comptroller of the Currency, showing the condition of the national banks in the United States at the close of business on Saturday, the 1st day of May, 1875:—

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	$964,574,114
Overdrafts	3,979,383
United States bonds to secure circulation	377,026,900
United States bonds to secure deposits	14,372,200
United States bonds on hand	14,290,800
Other stocks, bonds and mortgages	29,102,197
Due from redeeming and reserve agents	80,620,878
Due from other national banks	45,980,330
Due from State banks and bankers	11,984,531
Real estate, furniture and fixtures	40,051,527
Current expenses	7,703,477
Premiums paid	8,413,874
Checks and other cash items	13,120,606
Exchanges for Clearing House	116,970,819
Bills of other national banks	19,465,359
Bills of State banks	24,681
Fractional currency	2,702,200
Specie	9,986,961
Legal tender notes	83,980,928
United States certificates of deposit for legal tender notes	38,655,000
Five per cent redemption fund with Treasurer	16,787,279
Due from Treasurer other than redemption fund	4,627,142
Total	$1,904,421,193

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	$497,717,143
Surplus fund	131,404,608
Undivided profits	55,849,959
National bank notes outstanding	322,522,350
State bank notes outstanding	813,079
Dividends unpaid	2,502,234
Individual profits	692,558,629
United States deposits	6,797,972
Deposits of United States disbursing officers	2,766,387
Due to national banks	127,083,238
Due to State banks and bankers	52,654,956
Notes and bills rediscounted	5,671,031
Bills payable	6,079,632
Total	$1,904,421,193
Number of banks	2,045

The above statement is exclusive of one bank in San Francisco, from which a report has not yet been received.

THE FIERCE DEMOCRACIE.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF 1876 INVITED TO MEET IN ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 20, 1875.

The Democratic Central Committee adopted a resolution yesterday, inviting, in behalf of the democracy of this city and State, the National Democratic Convention of 1876 to assemble in this city, and pledged themselves to make ample preparations for the reception and accommodation of all who come to it. The place proposed for holding the Convention will be the hall of the new Chamber of Commerce building, which will be 235 feet long by 100 feet wide and 70 feet high, with galleries all around the hall, and a capacity for seating 17,000 people.

WOMAN'S CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION.

HARTFORD, Conn., June 20, 1875.

A meeting of ladies was held on Saturday to consider a plan for forming a Woman's Centennial Association, auxiliary to the National Association, and was addressed by Judge N. Salpman, Mrs. E. D. Gillespie, of Philadelphia, and General Hawley. A committee was appointed to present a list of officers at a future meeting.

A DISASTROUS STORM.

A FISHING BOAT UPSET AND OTHERS MISSING—PROBABLE LOSS OF LIFE.

CALAIS, Me., June 20, 1875.

The heavy storm of Friday night caused some loss of life along the coast. A large number of boats engaged in salmon fishing near Port Lepreaux, N. B., were caught by the gale. One boat, which contained six young men belonging to Musquash, N. B., was found bottom up this morning and towed into Lepreaux. The crew is supposed to be lost. No bodies have been recovered as yet. Many boats are still missing, and it is feared that a number of other lives have been lost.

THE CROPS.

FAVORABLE REPORTS FROM KANSAS AND MISSOURI—THE HARVEST PLENTY AND LABORERS FEW.

KANSAS CITY, June 20, 1875.

From parties just returned, as well as from letters received, it appears that the crop prospects in Kansas were never known to be as good as now. Large farmers in the western portion of the State are telegraphing here for harvest hands, and complain that they cannot get men enough to harvest. The harvesting in Southern Kansas has commenced and the average is immense. Some of the comparatively new counties claim 1,000,000 bushels of wheat and a rough estimate of wheat for the southwestern part of the State is 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 bushels. This enormous amount will be more than duplicated in the West and other sections. The great fear is that hands enough cannot be obtained to harvest the crop.

Specials from Central Missouri, as well as from other parts outside the grasshopper belt, are equally encouraging. In the grasshopper belt an enormous average of corn has been planted, more by fifty per cent than any previous year, and the frequent rains and hot sunny days which have prevailed for a week or more have raised high hopes of a big corn crop.

A MURDEROUS ASSAULT.

AN ATTEMPTED ROBBERY FRUSTRATED—ARREST OF THE PERPETRATORS.

TRENTON, N. J., June 20, 1875.

Charles Thompson, of New Brunswick, went into an unoccupied house on Feeder street, in this city, this morning and went to sleep. Three roughs, named Bill Lyons, Robert Jackson and James Mullen entered soon after, and while in the act of robbing Thompson awoke him. He fought them desperately, and they made an assault upon him with knives and razors, inflicting dangerous wounds, one of which extended across the throat from ear to ear, but escaped the jugular vein. Thompson's shouts brought the police and the assailants were arrested. Thompson lies in a critical condition. He is forty-five years of age and was formerly a lieutenant in the Second United States cavalry.

HORSE THIEVES HANGED.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 20, 1875.

A special despatch to the *Globe-Democrat* says four horse thieves were hanged at Wellington, Kansas, last Thursday night by the Vigilantes.

THE U. S. STEAMER KANSAS.

KEY WEST, Fla., June 20, 1875.

The United States steamer Kansas arrived here this morning from Porto Rico. She will coal and proceed to the Bahamas to survey Watling's Island.

FIRE AT LONDON, ONTARIO.

LONDON, June 20, 1875.

A fire last night destroyed the paint and paper establishment of R. Lewis Richmond, Jr. Loss, $20,000; half covered by insurance.

FOREST FIRES.

OTTAWA, Ont., June 20, 1875.

Two engines were despatched yesterday to check the bush fire which is raging at North Nation River and Lochaber. McGanoran's mill at the latter place, was destroyed. The city is full of smoke. A third engine has been sent to Britania, west of the city.

LITERARY CHAT.

An interesting and instructive book about prisons, is that of Captain Arthur Griffith's "Memorials of Millbank and Chapters in Prison History," in two volumes. In abounds in anecdotes of clever rogues and famous criminals.

Charles Dickens' "Hard Times" has been traduced into French under the title of "Les Temps Difficiles," and is sold at 25 cents.

The King of Belgium will give an annual prize of $5,000 for the best work on certain prescribed subjects. The first prize will be awarded in 1878, subject, "Belgian History;" in 1879, the best work on Architecture will draw the munificent premium, and in 1880, "The Commercial Relations of Belgium."

We are to have a new book of British Gossip by the Earl of Albemarle, under the title of "Fifty Years of my Life."

The London *Bookseller* gravely announces that the *Daily Telegraph* has arranged with Mr. James Greenwood for a series of sensational articles to last during the summer dulness. Some of the subjects are given as follows:—"Fight between a Tigress and a Housemaid at Buckingham Palace," "A Week at the Treadmill as a Rogue and a Vagabond," "Among the Hot Whiskeys of the Secret Parlor, by our own Commissioner," "A Spelling Bee at Billingsgate" and "A Midnight Meeting of Assassins on the top of the Duke of York's Column."

A history of Buddha and his transmigrations before he was born has just been published in the Pali language.

The Bishop of Manchester has solemnly declared the novels of Miss Braddon and of Miss De La Paura (calling herself Ouida) to be not only unwholesome but immoral.

John Forster's new "Life of Dean Swift" is nearly ready for publication.

The London *Bookseller* makes fun of the grievances of the Association to Protect the Rights of Authors, which, it says, resolve themselves into four. 1. The Queen is a loser of copyright in Canada, which, considering the very small salary of about $2,000,000 she receives, is a dreadful grievance. 2. English authors who issue their books first in America lose copyright in England. To this the *Bookseller* says, "Serves them right." 3. Novelists are injured by their stories being dramatized, and French authors of plays have to publish in English and register at Stationers' Hall before they can secure a copyright. The last complaint may be easily remedied, and as for the novelists, whose brains are stolen for dramas, the *Bookseller* unfeelingly remarks that they are well paid already and should not be so greedy of gain.

The Royal Library at Brussels now contains 300,000 volumes.

The notorious Father Gavazzi has contributed a reply to Dr. Newman's reply to Gladstone in the Catholic controversy.

Twenty years ago the original manuscript of Gray's "Elegy" brought £125 in London. It was sold at auction last month for nearly double that sum, or £230. At the same sale Dickens' "Christmas Carol," entirely in his autograph, brought £55.

Edmund Yates' new novel will be entitled "A Silent Witness."

Mr. Beresford Hope, who established the famous and successful *Saturday Review*, has united with the Dean of St. Paul's to start a new review, entitled the *Church Quarterly*.

The great Russian expedition into Central Asia has been written up by Lieutenant Stumm, whose book will shortly appear in the German language.

The fourth volume of "Mill's Dissertations and Discussions," which completes the series, contains the reviews of Thornton on Labor, Maine's Village Communities, Bishop Berkeley's Works and Grote's Aristotle.

The London *Academy* is very severe on Merle D'Aubigné's "History of the Reformation in the time of Calvin." It characterizes the work as marked by ignorance, carelessness and theological bigotry.

AN OLD LANDMARK GONE.

Yesterday afternoon the young Arabs of the Sixth ward were engaged in demolishing the original quarters of the "Matthew T. Brennan Hose, No. 60," belonging to the Eighth district of the old Fire Department and situated on the southwest corner of the Tombs, in Leonard street. In 1856, after having been located in the shanty in question, No. 60 removed to No. 12 Elm street, and ran from there till 1865, when the present department was organized. In the original quarters the organization was about thirty strong. Among its first members were Police Justice M. T. Brennan, Captain Edward Welsh, of the police; Walter Roach, who when Supervisor, later on, became connected with the notorious Guardian and Bowling Green savings banks; John Clancy, former County Clerk and editor of the *Leader*; Deputy Sheriff Martin Keyes, who still preserves some of the records; Congressman Morgan Jones, M. Higgins, who worked on the Croton repairs and was generally known by the name of "Blue;" he was an excellent swimmer, and, like the well known Hussey, of Seventh ward fame, had saved a great many people from a watery grave. The little place in which the hose carriage or "jumper" was kept was about fifteen feet deep by about ten feet frontage, on Leonard street. The rear of the quarters consisted of a large door, opening into the Tombs, but securely fastened on both sides. After the shanty was vacated by the Brennan fire company it fell into the hands of an old Mississippi steamboat barber named Nelson Crawford, now dead, who was full of quaint sayings, one of which was, "What didn't concern people hadn't 'orter' trouble them." The old fellow had a large custom among the prisoners, including those condemned to the gallows.

THE LONG BRANCH RAILROAD.

The new railroad between this city and Long Branch will be opened to-day, when four trains a day will be run each way. The time of the trip will be an hour and a half. A depot is being built 500 feet in the rear of the Pavilion Hotel. On Monday the largest drawbridge in the world, that over the mouth of the Raritan river, was formally inspected by the officers and invited guests. The bridge is 472 feet long and the passages for the boats are 200 feet wide. Two large steam engines are used in operating the draw, which occupies about three minutes.

SUICIDE BY DROWNING.

At half-past nine o'clock last night an unknown man, aged about thirty-five years, five feet ten inches in height, black hair, whiskers and mustache, brown eyes, and wearing a dark suit, woollen shirt, blue woollen socks and boots, committed suicide by jumping from the ferryboat Jersey City into the East River, near the foot of Desbrosses street. The body was recovered and the Coroner notified to hold an inquest.

MICHAEL MURPHY'S MANIA.

THE GRAVE CLOSED OVER A MAN OF EXTRAORDINARY PHYSICAL POWER.

The funeral of Michael Murphy, the unfortunate man who died at the Charity Hospital in Jersey City on Friday, while laboring under the wildest frenzy, took place yesterday. The remains were taken to St. Peter's church, where the mortuary services were performed by the Rev. Father Marshall, S. J. The body was interred in the Catholic Cemetery, on West Side avenue. The post-mortem examination showed that death resulted from congestion of the brain. The heart was unusually large, and the muscular development was without precedent in the experience of the attendant physicians. Murphy, though only twenty-nine years of age, was a man of tremendous physical power. He burst the bonds placed upon him three times with apparent ease, and it required the efforts of half a dozen men to subdue him. He was not addicted to liquor. The remote cause of death was a blow received on the head six years ago, which resulted in an abscess on the right hemisphere of the brain. When arrested he was armed with a scythe, and was rushing through the streets, spreading consternation wherever he appeared.

AMUSEMENTS.

JONES' WOOD COLOSSEUM—SIXTH SUNDAY CONCERT.

The series of Sunday afternoon concerts inaugurated by Downing's well known military band have, so far, met with the success they deserved. The spacious concert room of the Colosseum was well crowded yesterday, and the music was of the high standard that might be expected from such an experienced leader as Major Downing. There were a triumphal march, a couple of waltzes and overtures, by Mercadante and Herold, to please the popular taste; a chorus from "Tannhäuser," to gratify the Wagnerites; a shower of melodic pearls from Bellini's operas, a fantasia on Verdi's "Macbeth" for those of Italian opera proclivities, another on "Fra Diavolo" for the admirers of the French school, and a cornet solo by Mr. Benjamin C. Bent, a very talented and brilliant player. The concert ended with a cleverly constructed and effective quickstep by Downing, on themes from "La Fille de Madame Angot." A very interesting feature of these concerts is the presence of large numbers of ladies and children, the little ones enjoying the gay scene with evident satisfaction. The view of the East River and its islands from the balcony is very picturesque, at times a huge Sound steamer sweeping past, almost directly beneath the concert room. There is abundance of good music and healthful enjoyment to be found at Jones' Wood Colosseum on a Sunday afternoon during the summer.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

Mlle. Cora Adriana has made a decided hit in the operatic ballet, "La Bayadere," by Auber, and meets with a dozen recalls each evening.

Mr. Aaron Appleton has been appointed business manager of the Kiralfy Brothers' forthcoming season at the Academy of Music, during which the grand spectacular drama, "Around the World in Eighty Days," will be produced.

Mr. Edward Mollenhauer, the distinguished violinist, has entered the concert field again.

Signor Operti will lead the orchestra at Booth's next season.

Will. P. Noble's large musical cartoon on the Cincinnati musical festival is on exhibition at Decker's music hall, Union square.

A number of prominent citizens will tender a testimonial benefit to Mr. George Clarke, on Saturday next, at Booth's Theatre. The object of the benefit is to enable Mr. Clarke to proceed to Europe for the purpose of studying in the best European schools. The favor with which Mr. Clarke has ever been regarded by the New York public will, no doubt, insure a crowded and brilliant audience on the occasion of his benefit next Saturday.

Emerson's Minstrels, from California, are in the third week of their engagement at the Park Theatre, and continue to nightly delight large and fashionable audiences. The entertainment is of an approved order and more genuinely Ethiopian in the musical selections and burlesque acts and less of the character of the variety shows than is usual nowadays with the minstrels. Thoroughly enjoyable bits of comic acting are the acts on this week's bill, entitled "The Three Doves," "Time Tries All" and "The Three Orph-uns." Ben Cotton, Billy Rice, Billy Arlington, Bob Hart and Kemble are comedians of sterling ability, especially the two first named, who individualize with rare skill every character they assume. The present bill only introduces Mr. Emerson on the end in the first part, when he sings the comic song, "Susan Jane," and in the second part in his "Bouquet of Vocal Gems." He possesses a well trained voice, with a liquidity in its melody that is peculiar to himself.

RETURNING FROM BUNKER HILL.

THE FIFTH MARYLAND REGIMENT.

The famous Fifth of Maryland arrived in this city yesterday morning at eight o'clock, accompanied by the Navy Yard band of Washington, many of them feeling pretty well fagged out by travel and the hospitalities that had been showered upon them while in Boston. A delegation of the Seventh regiment met them at the steamboat landing, foot of Murray street, and with a detailed squad of police escorted them to the Jersey City ferry, foot of Cortlandt street, when they immediately marched on board of the ferryboats and crossed the river. A special train was there in waiting, but which was detained about half an hour for the Maryland boys to refresh themselves at Taylor's Hotel. A large number of citizens of Jersey City were on hand to bid them a safe journey home. Among them were Colonel Dudley S. Gregory and General James Hatfield, both of the Old Guard, of this city. They left at a little before ten and arrived at Baltimore in the evening.

THE WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY.

Company A of the Light infantry of Washington, D. C., arrived in this city yesterday morning at the Forty-second street depot, and took breakfast at the Grand Union Hotel. All the men seemed to be in good spirits, but anxious to get home. After breakfast they took the cars down as far as Fourteenth street, where they got out, and after forming line, marched down Broadway to Canal street, and thence to Desbrosses street and crossed over to Jersey City, where they took seats in the special train provided for the Fifth Maryland and left for home. Had it not been Sunday both the Fifth Maryland and Company A of Washington would have had a military escort through the city. They arrived safely in Washington last evening.

THE MONASTERY BELLS.

THE BLESSING OF THE NEW BELLS FOR THE PASSIONIST MONASTERY.

The ceremony of blessing the three bells recently purchased by the Passionist Fathers for St. Michael's monastery, West Hoboken, took place yesterday afternoon in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. The bells were cast in Troy, N. Y., and weigh respectively 3,000, 1,500 and 900 pounds. The sound which they emit when rung simultaneously is extremely melodious, and their chimes penetrate in soft, silvery waves to a distance of four or five miles. The rites incident to the blessing of bells are very interesting. Rigr. Seton, who performed the ceremony, was assisted by the Rev. Fathers Eusebius and Literatus as deacons, and Father Joseph as master of ceremonies. Among the other clergymen present were the Very Rev. F. T. Dominick, Provincial of the Order, and Philip Bandinelli, rector. Numerous lay brothers and altar boys in robes of every one lent additional splendor to the scene. After anointing the bells an appropriate discourse was delivered by Mgr. Seton, who took his text from the book of Psalms—"Sing joyfully to God all the earth; serve ye the Lord with gladness; come in before his presence with exceeding great joy. Know ye that the Lord is God; He made us, and not we, ourselves. We are His people, and the sheep of his pasture." We read in the fourth chapter of Genesis, he observed, that "Tubal-cain was a hammerer and artificer in every work of brass and iron;" yet we do not know that the ancients used bells. Among the Jews the solemn festivals were announced to the people with metal trumpets, and the year of jubilee was ushered in by the blasts of trumpets made of rams' horns. The bell, however, is

A PECULIARLY CHRISTIAN INVENTION.

The Latin name, campana, was bestowed upon this instrument of joyful sound because its peals were first heard in the Christian churches of that beautiful plain which, stretching from Rome to Capua, was named Campania from its flat and field-like surface. As bells were an Italian invention it was quite appropriate that these monastery bells should be blessed by a native of Italy. The Church had received a divine power to change the ordinary products of the earth. When the first Adam fell all nature, as it were, fell with him; but when the second Adam came He elevated nature to its primeval state, which change is commemorated in the blessing of material objects, such as the bells. With admirable fitness the Church does this. For, as we have two homes—one here below and the other in heaven—it was appropriate to consecrate those objects which would call the children of light from earth to the church, which is the entrance to heaven. The very reverend gentleman concluded his eloquent address with an appeal to all to respond promptly at all times to the call which the bells would sound forth. At the close a collection was taken up, which realized $150.

FIRE IN GRAND STREET.

Early last night a fire broke out in the sub-cellar of No. 281 Grand street, used for storing empty boxes. The first floor was occupied as a boot and shoe store by Samuel Cohen, whose stock is slightly damaged. The building, which is owned by Abraham Etinger, was damaged to the extent of $1,000. Insured.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

Ellen Corcoran, a child of five years, whose parents reside at No. 47 Park street, while looking out of the fourth story window yesterday, lost her balance and fell to the ground, fracturing her skull. She was removed to the Park Hospital, but died shortly afterward. The Coroner was notified to hold an inquest.

NIAGARA FALLS.

CHANGES IN THE CONFORMATION OF THE FALLS—OTHER CHANGES NOT QUITE AS RADICAL BUT OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO VISITORS—A DEATH BLOW TO EXTORTION—THE FALLS REDEEMING ITSELF—PROSPECTS FOR THE SEASON.

CLIFTON HOUSE, NIAGARA FALLS, June 18, 1875.

Everything indicates an unusually large number of visitors at Niagara this season. Already the arrivals are greatly in excess of those at Saratoga, Long Branch or Cape May. Of course the late spring has had an unfavorable effect on our watering places, but with the advance of the summer solstice and the prospect of a counterbalancing protracted heated term to make up for the continuously cool weather of the past few weeks, there is a fair show of full hotels and a season of unwonted gayety and brilliancy. One thing, moreover, that is going to help Niagara greatly, or at least ought to, is the great improvement in the hotels since last season, the putting under proper curb the host of avaricious and unscrupulous hackmen, who have heretofore made every one coming here the victim of their merciless extortions, and the reduced prices of the dealers in curiosities, whose audacity in the way of exorbitant charges has been only second to the bold effrontery of the hackmen, and which two classes together, in their impositions upon visitors, have given this place a reputation, the odious brand of which it will take a long time to efface.

THE OLD, OLD STORY.

Not much can be written of Niagara Falls that is new. The deep diapason of its thundering roar still fills the air. Its veil of mist rises and falls and dissolves in beautiful spray—beautiful, poetically so, when lit up with rainbow tints under the noonday sun; but commonplace, exceedingly so, as shirt collar and bosom and wristband and the delicate tracery of feminine laces and all the other wonderful paraphernalia of female apparelling become limp and lustreless and lugubriously lachrymose. The earth still trembles before its mighty power—a trembling that to the highly wrought, sensitive soul is grandly awful, but to the tired-out and nervous, with strong anti-somnolent tendencies, a fearful nuisance in its incessant, noisy shaking of creaking blinds and window sashes, but, looked at from any point of view, whether from eyes young and bright and flashing with youthful enthusiasm or dimmed by overwork or age, there is that overwhelming sense of grandeur in the presence of this mighty waterfall—that feeling of wonder and adoration—that makes the falls an object of unceasing interest. Of course, there are some drawbacks. While to many there is almost an irresistible impulse to cast one's self over the mighty precipice, a feeling, indeed, that is acutely painful at times when one realises that he is not yet quite an angel, endowed with winged power. Others are quite as equally apt to forget that they are mortal, and in allowing themselves to get drenched to the skin through too long lingering in the spray pave the way for lumbago, neuralgia or rheumatism, the three mighty ills to which mankind has fallen heir through the untimely imprudence of Adam in the matter of clothing. The feverish unrest of our American haste leads to indiscretion in this matter. The bride in a low-necked dress forgets that her shoulders and neck need care, and does not guard herself sufficiently against sowing the seeds of insidious consumption. Visitors, after their tours of observation, should be careful to divest themselves of their damp clothing. In fact a caution in this respect should be inserted in the guide books, or much better, a rigid rule laid down, for somehow when people go to watering places and often for the sole purpose of recuperating their health, they seem to disregard all its primary laws. Making excuse for this digression, which really, however, is called for, it is proper to note some of the

CHANGES AT THE FALLS.

As is well known, the theory is that gradually through the long lapse of centuries the fall has by slow degrees worked its way from the opening of the chasm several miles below. If this theory be correct, the upward progress of the fall has been exceedingly slow, for the oldest inhabitant is able to indicate but brief change in its formation. Careful observers, however, detect an obvious change in the conformation of the Horseshoe Fall. The incessant rush of the mighty cataract has perceptibly deepened the indenture near the American side, so that its shape is quite different from what it was a year ago. The great bulk of the water flows over this fall and it is quite natural that the wearing away of the edge should be more rapid and perceptible here than at other points. The American Fall does not show as straight a line as heretofore, proving very clearly that time is working its changes here also. Some go so far as to assert that the fall will gradually work its way up to Buffalo; but the possibility of such an event is not very likely to disturb the equanimity of the hotel keepers or cause any diminution in the value of real estate. There is one positive change that old tourists particularly notice, and that is the absence of the old lighthouse. No vestige of it remains, and it is a matter of general surprise, considering the fine view obtained from its summit, that a new and more massive and substantial structure is not erected in its place. Of course the necessity of such a tower, as far as sightseeing is concerned, is obviated to some extent through the elevators enabling visitors to view the Falls from the Suspension Bridge towers; but then the poetic effect is vastly different, for in the latter case one gets only a bird's-eye view of the Falls, and in the former one stood on the brink of the awful chasm itself, and could realize more fully its grand and overwhelming sublimity. But the

SPIRIT OF UTILIZATION

seems to be a paramount idea at present. During the past winter there has been erected upon the American side a flour mill over the narrow stream, the fall from which was long since christened the "Bride's Veil." The mill runs day and night, and there is never any lack of water. It would not be a thing so much to be wondered at if some enterprising Yankee, imbued with a broader and more comprehensive utilitarian spirit and larger grasp of inventive genius, should turn the whole fall into a gigantic raceway for gigantic mills.

PROSPECT PARK.

The idea has always been pretty broadly prevalent that any attempt to debar the public from a free and unobstructed view of the Falls from all possible points should be firmly resisted. The result was a general anathematizing by the mass of the scheme of fencing in a portion of the Falls, and allowing speculators to line their pockets at the expense of visitors. The thing, however, has been done, and legally done, and the only course to pursue is to submit to it or restrict your view of the Falls. And yet, after all, considering the way in which the thing is managed and the small tax levied, it is evidently more a public benefit than otherwise. The park is situated on the bank of the river, between the American Falls and the upper Suspension Bridge. The grounds comprise about nine acres and are tastefully laid out in grass plots, intersected by gravel walks, the whole being shaded by grand old forest trees of primeval growth. A strong parapet wall extends along the brink. From this point is obtained a splendid view of the American Fall in the immediate foreground, while in the distance can be seen the Horseshoe Fall, the American rapids and the upper Suspension Bridge. The park also includes an inclined railway to the ferry, a pavilion, a concert hall and a restaurant. Descending the railway the visitor has a magnificent view of the great body of bright green water as it pours over the precipice nearly 200 feet above him.

A PARAPET WALL.

Speaking of the parapet wall fronting Prospect Park, the authorities on the Canada side have taken steps to secure a much needed and very valuable improvement. A bill has been framed, and through the representative of the district presented to the Commissioner of Public Works, stipulating that a stone wall, two feet in height, be erected along the bank of the river from Lower Suspension Bridge to Table Rock. The bill is at present before the Commissioner awaiting his action. Should this improvement be secured, it will be one of the most valuable and most needed about the Falls.

IMPROVEMENTS AT GOAT ISLAND.

For the comfort and convenience of visitors this season some new changes have been introduced upon Goat Island. This island, as is well known, by its situation between the American and Horseshoe falls affords the greatest variety of interesting views of the river, the rapids and the Falls. It contains about seventy acres, for the most part covered with trees of the original forest. Foot-paths and carriage drives extend to all the localities from which views may be obtained. Goat Island also includes Luna Island which adjoins the American fall, the Cave of the Winds, which is reached by the middle staircase; the point where once stood the famous Terrapin Tower, the Three Sister islands, which are joined to the main island by miniature suspension bridges, and the Hermit's Cascade.

SUGGESTIONS TO VISITORS.

Strangers who visit Niagara for the first time are naturally anxious to obtain the best views of the Falls, and to see the most celebrated localities with the greatest economy of time, trouble and expense. It will not do to come here with an empty pocketbook, but then the extortions to which visitors were formerly subjected have mainly been abated. In the first place the hotel charges are less than formerly, and with rarely an exception they are under excellent management. Visitors who desire the best view of the Falls from their hotel, invariably go to the Clifton House. Those who are indifferent in this regard select the International, the Cataract or the Spencer House. Two new hotels are open this season on the Canada side, or, rather, one has opened and the other expects to open shortly. There need be no fear, in fact, of lack of hotel accommodation. The expectation, indeed, of the growing popularity of Niagara as a watering place has induced some large capitalists to enter into a scheme for building still another hotel on the Canada side. The site selected is on the hill adjoining Mr. Bush's place, and the projectors, who are now here talking the matter over, talk of a hotel that will rival in extent and magnificence the Grand Union at Saratoga. Another important as well as agreeable fact to be borne in mind is that the authorities on both sides of the river have enacted most rigid laws as to the charges of hackmen. These fellows have been an infernal nuisance heretofore, but their little game is played out now. They can only charge so much, no more, and the tariff is fixed at reasonable sums. Having seen all the wonders at the Falls, and crossed the new Suspension Bridge, which no visitor, of course, will fail to do, there is the old Suspension Bridge to be visited, then the Whirlpool Rapids and the Whirlpool itself. Then there is the Devil's Hole, three miles and a half below the Falls, a large chasm in the bank of the river receiving the water from a small stream, known as Bloody Run, and a place of much interest as the scene of an Indian massacre, and then the Burning Springs, about two and a half miles above the new Suspension Bridge, the water of which, when lighted, burns with a blue flame, being charged with sulphureted hydrogen gas, and last, but not least, there is the battle ground of Lundy's Lane, relics of which are still buried upon the battle field. In conclusion let the visitor use the same good sense here that he uses at home, know what he is to pay for his rooms and board before taking either, inquire the price of an article before he buys it, and, leaving worry behind him, come here to linger in the sweet and pure atmosphere, cooler, too, by several degrees than at other of our watering places, and while drinking in the grandeur of the scene daily presented to their view, take serene comfort and lay in renewed stores of health.

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