

New York at Last Determined on Rapid Transit.

GREAT MEETING LAST NIGHT

Majestic Demand for the Relief of the Metropolis.

A CORRUPT, SHAMELESS OPPOSITION.

What the City is Losing in Life, Population and Money.

DOWN WITH OBSTRUCTIONISTS!

"Put None But Friends of Rapid Transit on Guard."

LIVE SPEECHES--SLEDGE-HAMMER RESOLUTIONS

Nears. Wickham, Dodge, Purdy, Fuller, Eccles and Others on the Great Need.

Chickering Hall was filled last night by a large and thoroughly enthusiastic audience, that represented much of the wealth, culture and progressive character of the metropolis.

Capitalists, merchants, the owners of uptown property, city railway men, politicians--in fact, people of all classes--attested by their presence the deep interest that has been excited by the discussion of the rapid transit question.

The call for the meeting was signed by over thirty-seven hundred of our most distinguished citizens, who are not often ascribed unless large interests are at stake and grave issues are to be considered.

In the present instance these citizens recognize the fact that the means of rapid transit between the upper and lower parts of the city, and between the city and country, are indispensable to the prosperity of New York, and accordingly, in view of the impediments that have barred the prosecution of the enterprise and the obstructions which a few men in the Legislature have interposed, they sought through a public demonstration to discover where the responsibility of delay should be placed, who are the authors of the mischief and what steps may be taken to effect a cure.

Whether this proves to be the beginning of a series of indignation meetings to be held hereafter throughout the city or no, it was a self-evident fact last night that the influential gentlemen who were present are determined to see that New York is not a city of opposition to the will of the people.

The feeling of indignation was deep and earnest and the words uttered had no unmeaning sound. How they touched the popular heart and found reflection in the sympathy of the vast audience was shown by the frequent applause that greeted the well put points of the respective speakers.

Among the hundreds of familiar public men present on the platform and in the parquet may be mentioned the names of ex-Mayor William B. Wickham, Cyrus W. Field, Hon. David Dudley W. Field, Peter Cooper, General Vile, S. K. Church, Mr. Gilbert, of the Elevated Railroad; E. C. Cowdin, Hon. A. B. Purdy, William F. Miller, Joseph I. Stein, J. C. E. Eccles (the last four members of the Assembly), and scores of the solid business men, whose signatures covered the long strips of paper that were suspended many feet in the air at the rear of the stage.

THE ORGANIZATION.

The meeting was called to order by the Hon. William B. Dodge, at whose nomination ex-Mayor William B. Wickham was unanimously elected president.

The following gentlemen were chosen vice presidents:—

- Samuel J. Tilden, Peter Cooper, William C. Bryant, Joseph Seligman, Samuel D. Stoddard, Thomas L. James, Rev. C. A. Baddock, Charles A. Arthur, James Montross, Henry M. Alexander, Daniel F. Tiemann, William Allen Butler, Samuel B. Ruggles, John B. Kendall, H. L. Clinton, H. K. Thurber, John A. Dix, John A. Stewart, Henry F. Spaulding, Charles M. Fry, George B. Eckert, Hugh N. Camp, Shepard F. Knapp, Herbert C. Parsons, William C. Whitney, Henry L. Clinton, E. L. Parron.

The following were appointed secretaries:—

- Hon. James D. Ingham, John A. Beall, E. L. Parron.

Resolved, that the chair, which he did amid much applause, the ex-Mayor spoke as follows:—

SPEECH OF EX-MAYOR WICKHAM.

My fellow-citizens, we have met this evening to take into consideration one of the most important questions that has recently been discussed in connection with the growth and welfare of New York; not only to resolve that rapid transit is a necessity, for that is conceded by all, but to devise the means of rapid communication between the two extremes of the city, because these means stand ready-made in capital and enterprise who are only awaiting the favorable opportunity to effect the object in view, but to hear from our members of the Legislature as to the reasons which impede the passage of the necessary bill; and who may likewise recapitulate some of the reasons which impede the passage of the necessary bill; and who may likewise recapitulate some of the reasons which impede the passage of the necessary bill; and who may likewise recapitulate some of the reasons which impede the passage of the necessary bill.

Resolved, that the people of this city, having for twenty years past been united and incessant in their demand for some form of rapid transit which should render the city more compact and convenient to each other, and the adjacent country equally accessible to the city, and the city equally accessible to the adjacent country, and the city equally accessible to the adjacent country, and the city equally accessible to the adjacent country.

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THE DEATH RATE.

Rate of population and the death rate by wards for 1876; also the number of deaths for three years ending December 31, 1876 (exclusive of those who died in institutions).

Table with columns: Ward, Population, Deaths, and Death Rate. Lists wards 1 through 24 with corresponding statistics.

WHAT OVERLOOKED COSTS.

These figures show the death rate per 1,000 inhabitants of the city of New York, exclusive of those who died in institutions, according to the census of 1875, 23 of the 24 wards which showed a death rate below this were—

The Third, Ninth, Twelfth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Thirty-second, Thirty-third, Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, Thirty-sixth, Thirty-seventh, Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, and Fortieth wards.

They also show that the ward which had the smallest death rate had the highest death rate; while the ward which had the highest death rate had the smallest death rate.

Now, these figures show that the death rate in the city of New York is not only high, but that it is increasing.

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THE MOUNT CARMEL DISASTER.

FULL DETAILS OF THE DESTRUCTION BROUGHT BY THE RESISTLESS TORNADO--LIST OF THE KILLED AND WOUNDED AND OF BUILDINGS WRECKED.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.

MOUNT CARMEL, 11th June, 1877.

A terrible tornado visited this city on Monday afternoon about half past three o'clock. Its direction was from the little south of west to a little north of east, and its line of destruction embraced all Fourth street, and a large portion of the territory between Third and Fifth streets.

The duration of the wind storm was not to exceed one or two minutes altogether. Heavy rain continued to fall for some time afterward. The speed of the wind was estimated at 150 miles per hour. The air was filled with flying roofs, windows, doors, lumber, rail, clothing, &c. Much of the debris was carried a distance of over a mile.

Loss of life is terrible, thirteen having been killed outright, while many others will undoubtedly die of injuries within a day or two. In addition to those known to be killed, several are reported missing and are probably buried under the debris. It was raining day; farmers could not work in the fields, and consequently the town was full of country people. The session of the County Commissioners Court also brought many to town.

POURCE OF THE WIND. Men, women and children were blown a distance of 400 feet, as if they were feathers. The best part of the town is destroyed. Not less than seventy families are homeless and homeless, and many distress is anticipated. The appearance of the town cannot be described. The hunt for bodies still continues. The following are known to be killed:—

- James Goodrick, George Brinck, William Newkirk, Alderman George Watkins, George Moore, Charles E. Edgar, John Alfred E. Pool, Fred Goetz, William Walter, B. F. Ballard.

WOUNDED. The following is a partial list of the wounded:—

- John Tonnies, severely; will probably die soon. Frank Meyer, wife and children. Charles Barton and wife. The latter will probably die. George Poynter, wife and child. Mrs. Poynter was blown into a tree. Mrs. Hendrixson, Mrs. Brown, William Brown's child, Mrs. Duncan and her daughters, Clyde Bell, son of Judge Bell, James C. Stanfield and wife, Miss Emma Eaton, A child of Mr. Hunt, A. M. Mausinge from the country, Fred Isenhart, Adam Willman, Charles Hughes, Dr. J. Leachter, Mr. J. Haberton, Thomas Watkins, Robert Parkinson, Sr., A. C. Edgar, Paul McDowell, James McGee.

The above were dug out of the ruins and are pretty badly hurt. Messrs. Haberton and Parkinson being old men may not survive.

Mrs. Barringer, W. W. McDowell and Robert Coulter were injured by the falling court house and Smith's building.

A Mrs. Bricker is very badly hurt. Solomon Kenney, Moses H. Biddle and John Willman were caught in the ruins of the Kenney and Watkins buildings.

Thomas Stone, from the country, is said to be severely hurt.

Henry and Norman Gray, both of Indiana, Mrs. Oscar Healey and child, George Higbee's child, will die. George Schilling's child, William Preitzer, Frank Poynter's daughter, Tillman McClelland, G. H. Reinhard, Robert Chapman, Adam Stein, William Harper, G. B. Davidson, W. F. Reinhardt, Lida Redway, Clarence Redway.

The loss of property is very great, and so accurate estimates can be made of the damage. It will not, however, fall short of \$50,000.

The following houses are utterly destroyed:—Savannah Titton's residence, stable and all the buildings; the Neitzen properties, Wolf property, occupied by George

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