BOSTON'S FETE.

Grand Ceremonies Over the Army and Navy Monument.

A BRILLIANT PAGEANT.

Nearly Forty Thousand Men in the Military-Civic Display.

THE UNVEILING SPEECHES.

Attorney General Devens Delivers the Oration.

AN ACCIDENT.

Blackstone Square Platform Sinks and Injures Several Spectators.

EVENING BANQUETS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

BOSTON, Sept. 17, 1877.

Boston never had a prouder day than this seventeenth of September. As the diamond is to all other gems so has this grand carnival been to all other holidays and celebrations in the tri-mountain city. Fine weather, a hundred thousand visitors, a grand pageant, civic and military, numbering 30,000 men, and a round of literary exercises of unusual excellence are only a few of the attractive features which have contributed to the success of the dedication of Boston's memorial to the valor of those who fought and died on sea and land for the sake of the country and the union. Business was at a standstill in the city. The great warehouses were closed, the banks and stores were shut up, and the people of Boston, great and small, with the forces which gathered from near and far, assisted either as participants or witnesses in the impressive and imposing ceremonies incident to the dedication of the beautiful memorial which the city has erected in memory of her honored dead. To-morrow business will be resumed, and the streets will assume their wonted appearance, but a long time will elapse ere the gorgeous street pageant and the other notable features of the day will be obliterated from the memories of those who gazed hour after hour upon the long procession as it slowly wended its way through the crowded streets of the city. As the streets re-echoed to the tramp of thousands of feet, and the strains of martial music from hundreds of bands, one was carried back to the great celebration in June, 1875, when the soldiers who fought against each other in the late rebellion marched side by side, winning the plaudits of the assembled thousands. And it will be a long time, too, ere the deeds which the beautiful granite shaft unveiled yesterday commemorates will be forgotten by a grateful people. The day will pass into the city's history as one of the most memorable in her calendar. Success attended the ceremonies in every particular, and the thousands who early flocked to the city departed satisfied with the day's spectacle.

AN IMMENSE ASSEMBLAGE.

It is estimated that there were 30,000 men in line. The various organizations, especially the military and Grand Army orders, turned out with full ranks. The lookers on numbered possibly twice as many more, and crowded every available spot on the prescribed route. Enthusiasm was the ruling spirit of the day, and the reception accorded the veterans of the war, especially Generals McClellan and Hooker, were very hearty, while the multitude was not slow to note and applaud the splendid marching of the militia. The decorations were very general, and, in some instances, quite elaborate. The banquets at the close of the dedicatory services and evening pyrotechnical display passed off very pleasantly, and, indeed, there were but few sad incidents to mar the day's pleasure.

THE PROCESSION.

The procession was composed of seven divisions, headed by the police. It comprised, after the Chief Marshal and staff and aids, Governor Rice and the First and Second brigades of Massachusetts militia, Grand Army Posts, other Massachusetts militia, Hooker's old brigade, various war and army organizations, the Boston school regiment, visiting military organizations, United states marines and sailors, municipal authorities of Boston, various invited guests, army, navy and marine officers, the legislature, members of Congress, Mayors of adjacent towns, officers of various associations, distinguished citizens, Knights Templar, Knights of Pythias, the Temple of Honor, Sons of Temperance, Knights of St. Patrick, and Irish and other charitable societies.

The feature of the third division was a barge drawn by six bay horses containing young ladies of the public schools representing the Goddess of Liberty and the States of the Union. The young ladies were dressed in white, with a sash of red, white and blue silk, and wore very pretty caps composed of the national colors, and each carried a bannerett with the name of the State she represented. The seats were arranged in tiers, with a central dais for the young lady representing the Goddess of Liberty. At the head of the barge was a blue silk banner, upon which, in letters of gold, were "The sister States; We honor the heroic dead."

LINE OF MARCH.

The procession was formed as above, and the head of the column moved at twenty minutes past eleven A. M. The route from the junction of Berkeley and Tremont streets was through the following streets:—Tremont, Chester square, south side, Shawmut avenue and Roxbury street, Guild row, Dudley, Warren, Washington, Summer, High, Congress, Milk, Broad, State, Devonshire, New, Washington, Hanover, Court, Washington, School, Beacon and Charles streets to the Common, where the procession was dismissed. The procession was about four hours passing a given point. Edward H. Savage Chief of Police, and his men were in the grand pageant.

A CONTINUOUS OVATION.

Every street and thoroughfare through which the grand procession passed, was literally packed with humanity, and the cheers which were given at frequent intervals were almost deafening. The applause for McClellan and Hooker was particularly deafening, and the floral tributes tossed into their carriages numbered hundreds. The whole line of march was one grand ovation, and the cheers and encouraging shouts were strengthened all the time by welcoming mottoes and bunting displayed from public and private buildings. It has been said, and undoubtedly with truth, that no city in the Union can inaugurate and carry out a street pageant quite as successfully as Boston, and it might be added, that no other municipality can turn out a larger, or more furious and enthusiastic army of spectators than this.

APPEARANCE OF THE COMMON.

As is usual on holidays the Common was the Mecca, the rendezvous, of a large portion of the people. The booths erected for the free dispensation of ice water were well patronized. The balloon men were about with their inflated red air chambers, the old apple women were in their appointed seats under the elms, the venders of peanuts, nasty gingerbread and nastier pie and the lung-tester man were doing a brisk business, while a legion of blind and lame beggars extorted pennies from the passers-by. The seats under the elms were all occupied, for the rays of the sun were hot in the extreme, and even a moment's respite from the dog-day temperature was a relief. For a wonder the fountains played merrily, the beauty of the columns of spray and water being heightened by the rays of the sun, which ever and anon shone between the leaves and branches of the stately trees. All the morning curious people wended their way to Flagstaff Hill, glad to get a view of the stately monument, even though its graceful outlines were veiled from the gaze of the public.

WAITING FOR THE PROCESSION.

As early as ten o'clock the doorways on the line of route were occupied by people, who patiently awaited the coming of the head of the procession. It is safe to say that every available window on the line of march was occupied, while in many instances good prices were paid for one or more seats. The temporary structures in various parts of the city were generally well patronized. After all, however, the bulk of the spectators lined the sidewalks and crowded and jostled each other and were very demonstrative when anything remarkable caught their eye or ear.

The City Hall was a scene of great activity, the members of the city government and the distinguished guests assembling there at an early hour. Parker's and the sidewalk in front of the hotel was packed at a quarter to ten o'clock A. M., when the marines from the Navy Yard, Colonel Jones commanding, formed in line.

EXERCISES AT THE MONUMENT.

Upon the arrival of the city and State officials and invited guests at the monument they were conducted to seats on the platform which surrounded the monument and was capable of containing 3,200 persons. Among the distinguished men upon the platform, besides the orator, were:—The Governor and Mayor and City Council; Mr. Henry B. Pierce, Mr. Charles Endicott, Mr. Julius L. Clark and Attorney General Charles R. Train, Judges of the Supreme Court, Mr. Horace Gray, Mr. James D. Colt, Mr. Seth Ames, Mr. Marcus Morton, Mr. W. C. Endicott, Mr. O. P. Lord, and Mr. A. L. Soule. The Justices of the Supreme and lower courts were well represented. Among others sitting near the orator's desk were General N. P. Banks, General John L. Swift, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Judge J. W. McKim, of the Probate Court; General George B. McClellan, General Joe Hooker, the living ex-Mayors of Boston, Hon. Richard Frothingham, Hon. Waldo J. Field, Hon. William Claflin and many others.

The exercises began with the performance of Keller's "American Hymn" and a prayer by the Rev. Dr. Cudworth. Mr. Martin Milmore, the sculptor, then stepped forward and, addressing the City Council, surrendered his works into their hands with these words:—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE—The work which the city intrusted to me is finished, and is here submitted for your approval and acceptance. I have endeavored to execute a fitting memorial to the men of Boston who died that the nation might live. Whether I have succeeded in giving adequate expression to the gratitude of the people it is for you, as their representatives, to say. I thank you, gentlemen, and your predecessors in office, for the generous support which I have received during the progress of the work.

Mr. Milmore having thus placed the beautiful tribute in the possession of the city's representatives, the monument was unveiled, Cole's band at this instant playing Julius Eichberg's "To Thee O Country." The masonic dedication exercises followed.

The exercises closed in the darkness with benediction.

THE SURRENDER TO THE CITY.

Alderman Thompson, as chairman of the Monument Committee, then in turn surrendered the commemorative statue to Mayor Prince as the representative of the citizens of Boston. In the performance of this duty, among other things, he said:—

We erected this monument, sir, not to commemorate the bitter conflict, nor to celebrate our triumph in the fratricidal struggle, but to testify our admiration for that stern devotion to duty and to the cause of freedom which led the men of Boston, true to the traditions of their fathers, to offer up their lives on the altar of their country. Their graves are scattered from the Atlantic to the Gulf; they sleep beneath the palmetto and the pine; but a grateful city keeps their memory green and they live forever in the hearts of their countrymen. In the language of Governor Andrew, the great war Governor of this Commonwealth:—

The dead are already immortal.

May the solemn dedication of the monument reared to the men of Boston who fell for their country renew the profound impressions of gratitude and of duty which belong to the recollection of their career, and may the column which bears their names stand a mute witness to a thousand generations of the beauty and triumph of virtue.

THE MAYOR'S RECEPTION OF THE MONUMENT.

In receiving the monument His Honor Mayor Prince recited the efforts which had been made ending in the erection of the monument, and paid an admirable tribute to the brave men whose deeds it was intended to commemorate. He said:—

The chief object of this admonishing sculpture—as the inscription tells us—is to impress coming generations with the example of the patriotic dead, and animate those who shall come after us and occupy the places we now occupy with similar sentiments of valor, honor, love of country and devotion to duty.

May, then, all those who shall come here and behold this sacred pile—may especially the young men, who are the hope of the country—feel and appreciate as they should the associations and suggestions of its solemn presence. And as often as they contemplate the artistic beauty here revealed—as they look upon the majestic statue crowning the column, as they study the patriotic emblems which decorate it, as they gaze upon the tablet which pictures the unreturning brave departing for the battlefield with the benediction of the sainted Andrew—let us hope that sometimes the shadows of our martyrs will appear to their entranced vision in transfiguration, assuring them of the glory which rewards heroic deeds and exhorting them to renewed vows of patriotism and loyalty!

Such are the objects and such the uses of this structure. Who is there of the North or the South, of the East or the West, that cannot join with us to-day with heartfelt sympathy in the services of this occasion?

The city of Boston does not erect a monument to perpetuate strife, and that saddest of strifes, civil war. She does not seek by the eloquence of sculptured stone and bronze to keep alive sectional animosity and acrimony; to keep in remembrance fraternal strife; to remind the gazer of fields red with the blood of countrymen; of victories over the descendants of sires who fought side by side under Washington for the establishment of American independence.

If such had been the purpose of our citizens it would have been better to have left the granite of this structure unquarried, and the components of this speaking bronze undisturbed in their mines. If the monument is to commemorate triumphs and victories obtained in civil war it would have been better to have built it of unenduring wood, like the trophies of the Greeks, so that it might perish and be forgotten with the passions and resentments awakened by the contest. If we had proposed to rear a perpetual record of dissensions which separated American citizens in the unnatural contest we should not have asked the presence on this occasion of distinguished guests from the South, nor invited them to unite in our solemn services.

Let the greetings they have this day received, let the memory of the touching scenes and reconciling hospitality of the 17th June, 1875, assure our countrymen that no unkindly feelings are cherished here.

ATTORNEY GENERAL DEVENS' ORATION.

Hon. Charles Devens, Attorney General of the United States, on being introduced by the Mayor, then pronounced the oration of the day, as follows:—

MR. MAYOR, FELLOW CITIZENS AND COMRADES—On the anniversary of a day thrice memorable as that of the first settlement of this town in 1630, as that of the adoption of the constitution of the United States in 1788, as that of a great battle fought for the Union on the soil of Maryland in 1862, we have assembled to dedicate this monument to the memory of the brave who fell in that great conflict which, commencing for the unity of the government, broadened and deepened into one for the equal rights of all men. Before we part some words should be spoken seeking to express, however inadequately, our gratitude to those to whom it is devoted. Yet our ceremonial will be but vain and empty if its outward acts are not the expressions of feelings deeper than either acts or words. Its true dedication is to be found in the emotions which have been kindled by the occasion itself and to which every heart has yielded. Here in this city, the capital of Massachusetts, a State from which more than sixty gallant regiments were sent to the field under the inspiration of her illustrious Governor, who now himself sleeps with those whom he sent forth to battle, we seek to surrender by this solemn act, from the age that is passing to the ages that are coming, for eternal memory and honor, the just fame of those who have died for the Union.

This is no monument to the glories of war. While great changes for good have been wrought and great steps taken toward liberty and civilization by the convulsive energies exhibited in wars, these are but exceptions to the great rule, that of all the causes which have degraded nations, opposed human progress and oppressed industry, war has been one of the worst. If this were its object it were better far that the stones which compose it had slumbered in their native quarries. No pomp and circumstance, no waving of banners, no dancing of plumes can lend to war true dignity. This is to be found alone in a great and noble cause.

Nor is this a monument to valor only. There is something honorable in the true soldier who, resolutely hazarding life, stands for the flag he follows; but there is that which is higher and nobler here. Among the finest monuments of Europe is that which is found in the beautiful valley of Lucerne, to the memory of the Swiss Guard who fell around Louis XVI. when the furious mob had stormed his palace. Placed in a niche of the limestone cliff, of which it seems a part, a lion pierced with a spear still holds in its death grip the shield on which are carved the arms of the Bourbon. Few works of art are more majestic or more fully show the hand of the master. It is courage only that it honors, and you wonder at the power which has so ennobled and dignified it, when the great idea of patriotism was wanting. The Swiss, whom it commemorates, simply did bravely the work which they had contracted to do, when the subjects of the King, whose bread they had eaten and whose wine they had drank, deserted him. The men whom we commemorate were brave as these, yet their place in history is not with them. It is with the soldiers of liberty, who have fallen a willing sacrifice for country with patriotic devotion. It is with the Swiss, who, at Sempach or Morgarten, in defence of their own freedom, broke the power of the House of Austria, and not with the mercenaries whom they have sent to fight the battles of Europe.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEAD.

An eloquent tribute to the dead on the field of battle, their lives a sacrifice to the unity of the country, here followed:—

Those whose names it honors were known and loved by us, and are not to be recalled but with that manly sorrow born of respect and love. There are those, also, to whom they were even nearer and dearer than to us who knew them as comrades, whose homes are forever darkened by the absence of the light of affection which their presence shed around them. But the age comes swiftly on which is to know them only by their deeds. We commend them to the grave and impartial tribunal of history as patriotic and devoted citizens; we invoke the considerate judgment of the world upon the justice of their cause; we renew and reiterate the assertion that there was a solemn duty laid upon them by their time, their place, their country, and that such duty they met and performed. To them, as to the Spartans who fell around their King in stern defence of the liberties of Greece, changing but the name of the battle field, apply the words which Simonides uttered:—

Of those who at Thermopylæ were slain,
Glorious the doom and beautiful the lot;
Their tomb an altar, men from tears refrain,
Honor and praise, but mourn them not.

THE ERA OF PEACE.

Now that it is determined that Union is to exist it must be rendered one of mutual respect and regard, as well as of mutual interest. Unless this is the case there is no cohesive pressure of either internal or external force strong enough to maintain it. There must have been a party victorious and a party vanquished; but there is no true victory anywhere unless the conclusion is for the interest of each and all. It is not the least of the just claims that the American Revolution has upon the friends of liberty everywhere that while it terminated in the dismemberment of the British Empire it left the English a more free people than they would have been but for its occurrence. It settled for them more firmly the great safeguards of English liberty in the right of the habeas corpus, the trial by jury and the great doctrine that representation must accompany taxation. We speak of it as the victory of Adams and Jefferson, but it was not less that of Chatham and Burke. * * * On the fields which were ploughed by the fierce artillery the wheat has been dancing fresh and fair in the breezes of the summer that is gone; and as the material evidences of the conflict pass away so let each feeling of bitterness disappear as together, both North and South, we strive to render the Republic one whose firm yet genial sway shall protect with just and equal laws each citizen who yields obedience to her power. Asking for ourselves no rights that we do not freely concede to others, demanding no restraints upon others that we do not readily submit to ourselves, yielding a generous obedience to the constitution in all its parts, both new and old, let us endeavor to lift ourselves to that higher level of patriotism which despises any narrow sectionalism and rejoices in a nationality broad enough to embrace every section of the Union and each one of its people, whether high or humble, rich or poor, black or white.

In concluding his eloquent oration the speaker said:—

In the classic mythology, which was the religion of the ancient world, it was fabled that the heroes were demigods. Raised above the race of man, and yet not so far but their example might be imitated, they served to animate those who yet struggled with their mortal surroundings. So should these, our heroes, while the dust of life's conflict is yet on us, inspire us to loftier purposes and nobler lives. And as we leave them to their glorious repose, and their pure and noble fame, let us go forth exalted by these hours of communion with them. Above them, as we depart, we utter the ancient form of words, and yet in no formal way, which conclude the proclamations of the State whose children they were, "God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!" And to this we add, with not less of fervor or solemnity, the prayer which was in their hearts and upon their lips as they died, "God save the Union of the American States."

A SAD DISASTER.

Immense crowds of people thronged the platforms erected by the city on Blackstone and Franklin squares, and the weight was so great that they gave evidence of weakening, and the captain of police in charge of the one on Franklin square, about twelve o'clock, cleared all the people off it. About forty five minutes past eleven the one on Blackstone square suddenly gave way, and amid the frightened cries of women and children the entire structure fell, carrying the people with it. As soon as possible the people were extricated and the following persons were found to be injured.

A LIST OF THE INJURED.

The wife of Mr. Apollonio, the City Registrar, had one of her legs broken; it was the left limb, below the knee. She was taken to her home.

Mrs. Ellen W. Crowley, wife of Mr. J. K. Crowley, Superintendent of Pawnbrokers, sustained a compound fracture of the left leg, which may necessitate amputation. She was taken to the City Hospital for treatment.

Henry Clinton O'Brien, son of Alderman Hugh O'Brien, had his left leg broken above the knee. He was conveyed to the St. James Hotel and had the bone set. The fracture was a simple one, and will not confine the boy long to the house.

Jameson E. Hall, of No. 25 Sydney street, Cambridgeport, had one leg badly fractured near the ankle joint, and was sent to the City Hospital.

Isabelle Bartlett, of No. 37 Everett avenue, Chelsea, suffered the dislocation of an ankle. She was sent home.

Honora Buckley, of No. 49 Monument avenue, Charlestown, was so injured in the side and back as to be carried from the square by the police.

A six-year-old son of Mr. E. H. Woods was upon the first seat of the platform which fell; he had just left the seats on Franklin square and stepped upon the others as they went down. One leg was caught between the timbers and broken. The boy was carried home.

William F. Sullivan and sister, of East Boston, fell forward on the iron fence and were badly bruised. They were conveyed to their home by the police of station 5.

Mrs. Charles H. Watriss, living at No. 379 Columbus avenue, was badly bruised. She was taken to her home.

Miss Mary Kinkaid, residing at No. 43 Monmouth street, East Boston, was injured internally, and was sent home.

George W. Currier, living at No. 43 Monmouth street, East Boston, was injured in one of his thighs, and was conveyed home.

From fifteen to twenty other ladies fainted, and some received slight sprains and bruises, which will probably be felt to-morrow more keenly than to-day.

Many boys were under the seats when the latter fell, and narrow escapes were numerous.

THE STRUCTURE BADLY PUT TOGETHER.

The shrieking of the women when the seats went down was painful to hear, and it is a wonder that no more accidents resulted. The height of the seats proved the salvation of many, no doubt, as the upper one was probably not over ten or twelve feet from the ground. The weakness was in the standards and almost utter absence of braces. For a light weight the seats would have done very well, but they were not suitably built for the support of the masses, probably 1,500 or 2,000, who were admitted to them. About all there was on the back of the standards to prevent their swaying laterally was an inch board lapped, where another joined it, and fastened with a single nail driven through two thicknesses. The planks, five in number, which served as seats, were nailed with a single spike or large nail, and assisted in keeping the frame work upright. But the standards were hardly strong enough, as shown by the fact that the platform dropped down, breaking the standards, instead of pitching backward. Carpenters who inspected the premises after the accident said the material used was good enough, but the construction was faulty. Joseph F. Paul constructed the seats, it was reported, for $2,500 or $3,000, and the reputation of the builder was considered a guarantee of substantial work.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

Moreover the public were given to understand that the Inspector of Buildings would run a careful eye over every temporary platform erected for the accommodation of the sight-seeing public. It is presumed the gentleman did inspect both of these rows of seats and pronounced them safe, as Alderman Wilder, of the Army and Navy Monument Committee, told the police at the City Hall this morning that the seats were strong and safe. He is chairman of the Committee on the Survey and Inspection of Buildings, and said last evening, in answer to an inquiry, that Inspector Shaw would see that the platforms were secure. The matter of their safety was questioned yesterday by Councilman Frazer, who expressed doubts to the Chief of Police, based upon the opinion of a competent mechanic, and hence it was that the Police Department took measures to assure itself whether the seats were strong, although this business did not come properly within their province. But for the watchfulness of the police in charge of the stands what happened in Blackstone square would previously have occurred, or its equivalent, on Franklin square, for the long row of seats on the latter had swayed so far that Captain Small, of the Fifth station, ordered it to be vacated, which had just been accomplished when a crash was heard on Blackstone street, with the result briefly described above.

A DAMPER ON ENTHUSIASM.

This unfortunate occurrence of course rendered useless the squares for demonstrations of enthusiasm when the procession passed. The masses took possession of them and vied with one another in getting the best places for seeing the procession through the fence. The platform left standing was guarded by police that no one might sit thereon to the danger of life or limb.

Alderman O'Brien was informed of the misfortune which had befallen his boy while in the procession, and hurried to the St. James, arriving soon after the limb had been set. Yet another accident occurred in addition to those above enumerated. Inspector Shaw was upon the squares shortly after the accident, looking over the débris and the standing platform, but was not inclined to say much about the affair. No doubt he heard many of the adverse criticisms made at the expense of the Inspector's Department, for they were offered very freely by citizens who witnessed what had occurred.

THE CROWDS IN BOSTON.

The regular trains could not accommodate those anxious to set their feet in the hub at the earliest possible hour, and "extras" were run by all the roads centring in the city. The city people were early astir too. To every true Bostonian the day's ceremonies had a peculiar interest, and it was but natural that the streets should contain the bulk of the population of the city. Mixed up as they were with the country people—the rich merchant side by side with the laborer and mechanic, the young man of fashion jostling the cheap "Muldoon" strutting about in his tight pants and sharp pointed boots, and the young lady resplendent in a gorgeous toilet standing in close proximity to the tired shop girl in her plain and unattractive dress, they seemed not to be blind to the curious and lively spectacle about them. One was reminded of the early hours of the Fourth of July as he walked about, only that it was to be noticed that there were more city people out for an airing.

NIGHT SCENES ON THE COMMON.

In the evening the common presented a beautiful appearance, lighted with calcium lights, which were thrown upon the monument, causing it to stand out in brilliant contrast against the dark background of trees. Colored lights were thrown upon the fountain in Frog Pond, and until a late hour hundreds sat upon the benches and watched the prismatic display.

BANQUETS AND REUNIONS.

During the evening reunions and banquets were held by the veteran regiments and the various military and civic organizations, the most notable being the reunion of Hooker's brigade, at Faneuil Hall. About five hundred members were present, many of whom had not met since the war, and the reunion was most hearty. The brigade, which was first in the second division of the third army corps of the Army of the Potomac, comprised the First and Eleventh Massachusetts, Second New Hampshire and Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania regiments, and contained some of the hardest fighters in the old army. At about eight o'clock General Hooker appeared in the hall and was greeted with loud and prolonged cheering, which lasted until he reached the platform.

The veterans opened ranks and he passed slowly through to the front, leaning upon the arms of Colonel Baldwin and General Marston, the band playing "Hail to the Chief." He was introduced by Colonel Baldwin, and addressed his comrades as follows:—

GENERAL HOOKER'S REMARKS.

MY OLD COMPANIONS—I have been overwhelmed, and I guess you have been, by what you have seen in Boston to-day. I never was fagged so completely as I have been by talking and shaking hands, and everything else; but I don't regret having come here, for many reasons. In the first place I meet here with my old companions in war, who taught me so many things that I want to tell how much I feel indebted to them. At the battle of Williamsburg some of you had never fought before; you were new troops. I had been educated with the idea that a soldier must be trained to be of much account; I was for old soldiers. I had served with them a long time, and had taken care of them just as I would of children, but you took care of me. (Applause.) You not only took care of yourselves, but you took care of your officers. When I saw you work as you did at the battle of Williamsburg from that moment I said, "God help the rebellion if General McClellan has many troops like mine." (Loud applause.) At that time I did not care how much they blundered at Washington or blundered in the field, you would bring it out all right.

Now, if I had full faith in the war, how it would end, I am indebted to you for it. I had an obstinate conviction after I saw that first fight, and it was as hard a fight as I ever saw. You never got credit for it. (Applause and cries of "That's so.") But I have tried to give it to you. I am not particular about commending generals; but I want a commanding general, if he don't think proper to risk his own life, to be near enough the latter to know who does it. (Applause.) I do not mention any names; but the life of the general is worth no more to him than the life of the most private soldier under him. I never expected to meet so many of you again. God bless you all. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

There were loud cries for General Marston, but he was ill and had left the hall.

Other speeches were made by Colonel Brownell Granger, General Isaac S. Barritt and Colonel Baldwin, who presided.

General Hooker made a few farewell remarks and the reunion of the veterans ended. The streets were thronged with people until past midnight.

The banquet at the Revere House this evening, given by the city to distinguished guests—military, naval and civic—was a brilliant affair and continued until a late hour.

OBITUARY.

HIRAM CRANSTON.

Hiram Cranston, proprietor of the New York Hotel, died suddenly yesterday morning at nine o'clock of disease of the heart. The deceased was in his office attending to his business, retired at his usual hour to his room preparatory to taking breakfast, was seized with the fatal ailment and expired within a half-hour after its first attack. Dr. White, of Twenty-first street, and other physicians were immediately called, but their efforts were fruitless, and he died. His only words were addressed to his brother—"Give me some air." The deceased was born in Stephentown, Rensselaer county, N. Y., on the 13th of September, 1815, and was, therefore, in the sixty-second year of his age. When only sixteen years of age he taught a district school in Berkshire county, Mass. His hotel experience began in 1836 in the Troy Hotel, Troy, N. Y., where he was a clerk. From Troy he came to the city of New York and took a position as clerk in the office of the Pacific Hotel in Greenwich street. After an experience of some three years in the Pacific (in 1839) he took charge of the Pavilion at Rockaway. He kept this place for twelve years. Thence he went to Davis, Brooks & Co. and took charge of the California business of the firm. In 1846 he opened the Eutaw House in Baltimore, still keeping control of the Pavilion at Rockaway. In 1854 he was landlord of the New York Hotel in this city, a position he kept until 1867, or during the civil war. Having amassed considerable means Mr. Cranston retired from business and went back to his birthplace (Stephentown), where he built a fine place and proposed to retire entirely from business. But the attractions of city life had not altogether lost their effect upon his genial nature. During the winters of his retirement he attended the Manhattan Club in this city. He there became associated with ex-Governor Tilden and William Butler Duncan as House Committee of the club. So satisfactory was his management that the club gave him a complimentary dinner, an event that is remembered for its brilliancy. In July, 1876, Mr. Cranston reopened the New York Hotel. His personal popularity soon raised the decaying condition of the house to its pristine height. The hotel was during the civil war the resort and headquarters of many distinguished Southerners, and the deceased became distinguished for the aid he extended his southern guests who were then without friends or means in the North. His kindness then won the warmest gratitude of the Southern people and it is exhibited even yet. The deceased leaves a widow, but no children, his only son having died some years ago. The hotel will continue in charge of his nephew, who was his partner in business, Mr. J. Henry Cranston.

The funeral services will take place to-morrow (Wednesday), at eleven o'clock A. M., in the hotel, when the remains will be taken for final interment in Greenwood Cemetery.

Probably few hotel proprietors now living in this country had a better intimacy with the prominent men of his period than Hiram Cranston. With Stetson, of the Astor House, there was, no doubt, a more cosmopolitan intimacy. Stetson took the distinguished statesmen—whigs of old times, democrats of old and new times—all who were sure of lavish hospitality at his board. Cranston's endeavors were more confined to the specialties of a section. The South was his field and the Southerners his patrons. Stetson retired with only moderate means; Cranston died leaving an estate of value. Stetson was never bothered by threats or direct assaults; Cranston was. The latter was the victim of two attacks, both of which came near proving fatal. The first occurred at his own hotel, where the editor of the *Courrier des Etats-Unis*, M. Gaillardet, was a guest. M. Gaillardet became angered at something Cranston had said or done. Cranston asked him what was the matter, when, by way of physical explanation, Gaillardet seized a champagne bottle and smashed it over Cranston's head. Gaillardet was arrested, convicted and sentenced, but escaped his keepers and is now in France, not having returned to this country since the occurrence. On another occasion, while Cranston kept the Eutaw House in Baltimore, he was stabbed through the lungs by a drunken cabman he had ordered to be taken out of his house. This wound affected him to the day of his death, and gave him that peculiar bending walk noticeable among his friends and strangers. In all his career Hiram Cranston has left a record that will be admired by his friends, and cannot for honesty, integrity, uprightness and unselfishness be denied by any class of people.

CARLOS COBB.

Mr. Carlos Cobb, one of the oldest and most prominent members of the Produce Exchange, doing business as a commission merchant at No. 30 Whitehall street, died last Sunday at Tarrytown. Mr. Cobb has been widely known for many years, and his death will be a source of regret for all who knew him. The flag of the Produce Exchange was displayed at half-mast yesterday out of respect for his memory, and also on account of the death of Mr. Stephen Brush.

STEPHEN BRUSH.

Mr. Stephen Brush, also a well-known member of the Produce Exchange, died in this city on Sunday last in his sixty-first year. He was engaged in business as a commission merchant at No. 35 Front street. His funeral will take place from the Church of the Ascension to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

CUT BY HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW.

Bernard McCann, of No. 204 Broome street, and Michael McGrath, of No. 56 Suffolk street, are brothers-in-law, who do not always agree. They got into a dispute on Sunday afternoon while drinking a quart of beer together in the house of the first mentioned, which resulted in a fight. Both were arrested, and, on being brought to the Delancey street station, refused to make any complaint against each other. In the meantime McCann's wife went to McGrath's house, at No. 51 Suffolk street, and late in the evening McCann proceeded thither to bring his wife home. The fight was then renewed, and McCann, being full of liquor, cut McGrath in the arm and also a woman named Johanna O'Brien, who interfered in the struggle, in the side of the head. McGrath and Mrs. O'Brien were taken to Bellevue Hospital and McCann was arraigned before Justice Otterbourg at Essex Market Court yesterday and committed to await the result of the injuries.

A MEAN THIEF.

Mrs. Welch, a poor old woman who from the meagre profits of an apple stand supports herself and a blind daughter aged twenty-one years, complained at the Tombs Police Court yesterday that she had been robbed of $14 by a young woman to whom she had in charity given the shelter of her house. The robbery was effected on the 4th inst. The night previous Bridget Conners, an acquaintance, begged to be allowed a place to sleep, as she was homeless, and Mrs. Welch granted her request. On the following day, while Bridget Conners and the blind girl were alone in the room, the latter heard a noise as of the bureau drawer being forced open. She asked Bridget the cause of the noise, who answered that she was only looking for a comb. Soon afterward she left the house, and when Mrs. Welch returned she discovered that $14, all she had, had been stolen from its hiding place in the bureau drawer. The thief was yesterday arrested in Brooklyn on another charge of larceny.

A JUDGE HELD TO BAIL.

Justice William Mahon, of Jersey City, had an examination before Police Justice Davis in the First District Court yesterday on a charge of embezzling $15 from a Mr. Teuch, which he had obtained on a judgment in a suit in his court, in which Teuch was plaintiff. Justice Davis decided that a prima facie case had been made out against Mahon, and held him to bail to await the action of the Grand Jury.

HORSE THIEVES.

The stable of ex-Sheriff William M. Cox, of Middlesex county, N. J., who resides near Cranberry, was opened last night and a valuable horse, a buggy and two blankets were stolen. There is no trace of the thieves. The farmers of this section of the State are greatly enraged by the constant depredations of the organized bands of horse thieves and vigilance committees continue to be formed.

A JERSEY GHOST.

The artisans employed in the steel works at Lafayette, a suburb of Jersey City, are honored by the nightly company of a ghost. He is a very early ghost, making his rounds before the traditional hour at which churchyards yawn, but in all other respects he is a very proper ghost, such as are

Oft seen by sepulchres and charnel vaults,
Lingering and sitting by a new made grave.

From a philosophical view he might be the ghost of a watchmaker, for he comes upon the very point of ten as if to set his watch. But he is not one of that guild, for some of the workmen have already recognized him as a defunct landowner of the neighborhood. He does not come all at once, but by instalments, his head and shoulders generally putting in an appearance first. They float about at some distance from the earth, and present the image of an old man, with gray beard. His ghoskship has been repeatedly seen by a number of persons.

LEXINGTON RACES.

FIRST DAY OF THE FALL MEETING OF THE KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION—THREE CAPITAL CONTESTS—M'WHIRTER, MINNOCK AND MOHUR THE WINNERS.

LEXINGTON, Sept. 17, 1877.

The fall meeting of the Kentucky Association began to-day at Lexington under the most unfavorable circumstances. Heavy rain fell on Sunday night, and this morning the track was extremely heavy. To-day was cloudy and threatening, and as a consequence the attendance was small in number. Three races were on the card, the first of which being the Phenix Hotel Stakes for three-year-olds, mile heats; the second the Filly Stakes, for two-year-olds, three-quarters of a mile, and the third a purse race of one mile. McWhirter was such a big favorite at the beginning of the selling of pools that very little could be got against him, and he was soon left out. The Typhoon was the favorite.

First Heat.—Early Light and McWhirter were first away together, followed by Typhoon, Endower and Enlight. At the quarter pole the horses took closer order, Enlight second, Early Light last. McWhirter won the heat with great ease by two lengths, Enlight second, Endower third, Typhoon fourth, Early Light distanced. Time, 1:54.

Second Heat.—McWhirter was still left out of the betting, and Enlight was the favorite against the field. Endower was in the lead at the start, but was passed by Typhoon on the turn, Enlight third, McWhirter fourth. No change of position occurred until the half-mile pole was passed, when McWhirter took second place, and at the quarter pole showed in front. He then went on and won easily by three lengths, Typhoon second, six lengths in front of Enlight, Endower fourth. Time, 1:55½.

THE SECOND RACE

had eighteen starters, Sallie M. beinh the favorite. Eliza Adams was kicked severely on the knee and had to be withdrawn. After more than two hours had been wasted in false starts, Minnock was sent off fully fifty yards in front of the others, with a running start, which won the race for her. Minnock was three lengths in front of Fairy Queen, who was second, Ambuscade third, followed by Cammie F., Waterwitch, Nettie Hopkins, Bell Palmer, Ella B., Topic, Sallie M., Hearsay, Fortuna, Grapple, Leverett, Enquiress and Alone, in the order named. Time, 1:23½.

THE THIRD RACE

was one mile. Hertog was the favorite. It was nearly night when the race was called and the spectators could not see the horses 100 yards from the starting point. They had a miserable start, Monur, getting away with a commanding lead, was never headed and won by three lengths, Tillie Brent (now called Mirah) second, with her head in front of Hertog, third, followed by Miss Ella, Toleno, Cairn, Victress, Florence Anderson, Yelton and Planetary in the order named. Time, 1:52½.

The following are the

SUMMARIES.

FALL MEETING OF THE KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION—FIRST DAY—MONDAY, Sept. 17.—FIRST RACE—The Phenix Hotel Stakes, for three-year-olds, $50 each, play or pay; $250 added. Mile heats. Closed with nine nominations.

Starters.

A. Buford's ch. c. McWhirter, by Enquirer—Ontario	1	1
A. Keene Richard's ch. c. Typhoon, by War Dance, dam by Wagner	4	2
Ward & Graddy's ch. c. Enlight, by Enquirer—Headlight	2	3
Warren Viley's ch. c. Endower, by Enquirer—Florence Wallace	3	4
F. B. Harper's b. f. Early Light, by Longfellow—Fanny Wells	dis.	

Time, 1:54—1:55½.

SECOND RACE.

SAME DAY.—The Filly Stakes for two-year-olds, $25 each, play or pay, with $300 added; the second filly to save her stake. Three quarters of a mile. Closed with twenty-five nominations:—

Starters.

T. J. Megibben's ch. f. Minnock, by Glenelg—Minx	1
E. E. Eagle's b. f. Fairy Queen, by Enquirer—Mollie Lincoln	2
J. A. Grinstead's ch. f. Ambuscade, by Alarm—Alala	3
G. W. Bowen & Co.'s ch. f. Cammie F., by Glenelg—Cordelia	4
J. R. McKee's ch. f. Waterwitch, by Asteroid—Weatherwitch	5
A. Buford's b. f. Nettie Hopkins, by Enquirer—Ninette	6
G. W. Bowen & Co.'s b. f. Belle Palmer, by Bonnie Scotland—Fanny Cheatham	7
B. G. Thomas' b. f. Topic, by War Dance—Talaria	8
P. B. Harper's b. f. Sallie M., by Longfellow—Platina	9
Reardon & Todd's b. f. Hearsay, by Australian—Dixie	10
J. W. Hunt Reynolds' b. f. Fortuna, by Enquirer—Farfaletta	11
Smoot & Nichols' b. f. Grapple, by Baywood—Goneril	12