QUIET IN MAINE.

Ex-Governor Chamberlain Advises a Legal Solution of the Trouble.

HINTS FOR GARCELON.

Strong Opposition to the Use of Troops at the State House.

MAYOR NASH'S PROPOSITION.

Public Meetings Keeping "the Issue" Before the People.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

BRUNSWICK, Me., Dec. 29, 1879.

General Joshua L. Chamberlain resides here. He is president of Bowdoin College; has been Governor of the State; is now major general of the enrolled militia, and occupies a position in social and political affairs which entitles his opinion to the most respectful attention. He has always taken a prominent part and displayed an active interest in the politics of his State since he came to man's estate. He has been a sort of air brake on the reckless leaders of the republican party and has always cried "Halt!" when there was danger of committing a serious blunder. The HERALD correspondent called on him this afternoon and solicited an interview. The change from a driving storm of sleet and snow to his cosey library was indeed a pleasant one, and the cordial reception tendered the visitor greatly enhanced this comfortable feeling. After a brief desultory conversation your correspondent stated the object of his mission. "I called on you," I said, "in your dual capacity as an ex-Governor of the State and as the highest officer in the militia service to ask your opinion on the serious issue presented to the people of Maine, and to ascertain what you regard as the safest way out of the trouble."

"As to the best way out of it," said General Chamberlain, smiling, "my mind is very clear. The remedy is simple."

"And that is——?"

"An appeal to the Supreme Court. Ex-Governor Morrill has pointed out the fair and honorable solution of the problem, in my judgment."

"How do you regard the action of the Governor and Council?"

"Well, I am not fully advised as to the merits of the case. I have only the published reports in the papers, and, of course, they are more or less colored by the desire to promote party interests. But there is one thing which strikes me, as it must have struck other people, and that is that the returns could be so counted under the provisions of the constitution and the laws that the result would overturn the popular verdict. It might be easy to satisfy my mind that this was a mere coincidence—a fatality, if one can so express it—but it will be difficult to satisfy the ordinary voter. The day after election the news was sent abroad that the republicans had secured a decided majority of the Senators and Representatives. When the official canvass was finished that majority was found to have been changed to a minority, and the conviction forced itself on the public mind that only republican towns were thrown out, and that by this means the expressed will of the people had been reversed."

DISAPPROVES OF THE PRESENT AGITATION.

"Do you approve of the indignation meetings, as they are called, and the tone of the speeches delivered there?"

"No, I cannot say I do. It was very proper to have the people brought together for the purpose of entering a protest against what they honestly regard as a great wrong. But to my mind, if they are to be continued, their tone and character ought to be radically changed. Instead of firing the popular heart the leading men who address the people ought rather to counsel moderation. They ought to labor in every way to allay the public excitement and prevent any attempt at a violation of law and order. There has been no meeting held in Brunswick so far, partly through my influence, and if there should be one, and I were invited to speak I would use every means in my power to check the flow of intemperate language which is doing so much at present to stir up the worst passions of the great masses of the people. Then there is another point which ought to be constantly urged in all our meetings. The strongest arguments should be used to induce men who hold certificates and who know that they were not elected to reject the honor conferred on them by the Governor and Council and allow those who were elected to get their seats. They ought to be urged and entreated to use their influence in the respective houses to have the will of the people as expressed at the polls fully carried out. Public sentiment should be directed to them, that they would not merely sit down in their seats, but stand up and raise their voices for popular rights."

"Now about the appeal to the Supreme Court?"

FAVORS SUBMISSION TO THE SUPREME COURT.

"I think the Governor should lay the whole matter before that body and ask for a decision on the questions under dispute. The whole State would be beneficially affected by this course, and the people would abide implicitly by the verdict. If the Executive Department has made a mistake in interpreting the law and constitution there ought to be no hesitation in receding from the position taken; that is the part of fairness. If no error has been committed and the Supreme Court should determine that the constitutional provisions and the statutes have been legally and properly applied then all opposition, I think, will cease at once."

"But can the Governor and Council recall a certificate duly issued and send out another to a different person?"

"I think they can; I believe there is a precedent for it, but it is a slender one. Even if there were not, the gravity of the situation would warrant the establishment of one. Let Governor Garcelon be quoted as authority in the future and his reputation would not suffer by the remembrance."

"What do you believe to be the duty of the Governor in the matter of those arms which his agent was prevented from removing on Christmas Day?"

"Well, I must confess I have not the details of the affair with sufficient clearness to enable me to form a judgment or express an opinion."

"You have read the reports in the newspapers, I presume?"

"Yes."

"Mind," I said, "I am not asking what General Chamberlain would do if he were Governor, for I think he would take the muskets to Augusta; but what in your judgment is the best way out of that difficulty—the best way for the public peace?"

The General smiled and then thought for a moment. After awhile he said:—"I think it was a mistake to try to remove the arms just at this time, and during the existence of so much excitement, and I think it was a mistake to prevent their transportation. The Governor has a perfect right to move State property when and how he pleases within State limits, but the removal of the arms at this time might be regarded as a threat by the people. It is very dangerous to suggest force as an aid in the solution of a political problem. It is like putting your hand on your sword in a heated debate or reaching around for your pistol."

CONCERNING THE BANGOR "INCIDENT."

"How do you regard the action of the Mayor of Bangor in countenancing the opposition to the removal of the arms through the streets?"

"It would be difficult if not possibly unjust to form an opinion without being on the spot. The course adopted may have been the only one left to prevent bloodshed, and a serious riot. Then, I have heard that the man who had charge of the State property had no orders, nothing to show, and that he did not receipt for them at the arsenal."

"But that was a circumstance which could hardly concern the citizens of Bangor, don't you think so?"

"Yes, that is true."

"What is the duty of the Governor, now that the matter stands as it does?"

"I do not know that he gave orders to Mr. French to remove the property."

"Supposing that he did, what then?"

"Then he ought to remove them; I would," said the General, with a smile. "Of course, I do not know, but I presume that he had good and sufficient reasons for transferring this property from Bangor to Augusta, and under these circumstances he ought to carry out his purpose; and all good citizens ought to, and I think they would, aid him. I do not see what need there is for arms at Augusta, for there is across the river a United States arsenal which could doubtless be drawn on in case of any serious outbreak.

NEVER BEEN APPOINTED TO "COMMAND."

"You may think it strange," said the General, "that I don't possess all the facts relating to the Bangor matter, being as I am Major General of the State militia. I was elected by last year's Legislature, but, owing to my opposition to the present militia laws and other causes, I never accepted, although I might and can qualify at any time. I did not wish to throw the honor back on the Legislature, but I was equally averse to taking command of a body of men with such a lamentable lack of proper organization, so I have never been assigned to command."

"While we are on this branch of the subject let me ask you if the Governor would be justified in calling on the militia to preserve order and assist in carrying out the results of his and the Council's action?"

"Undoubtedly he would have the power and the right to do it; but he ought not to do it, in my opinion, unless he had the very best assurances that there was to be a riot which the municipal authorities could not suppress. I am in favor of exhausting all other methods before resorting to the military arm, but if no other course is open, if the municipal authorities are unable to preserve the peace, then it is not only the right but the duty of the Executive to call on all available assistance. The organization of the two branches of the Legislature is set down by the constitution for January 7, and he must not let any outside influence interfere or interrupt it. All good citizens and all militiamen will answer his call when made for the suppression of mob violence, and even, I think, for the seating of the Legislature which will convene by virtue of questionable certificates."

"I will now ask a question personal to yourself. If the Governor called on you to qualify and take command of the militia called out would you obey?"

"I would answer that the volunteer militia of the State as now constituted is not a proper command for a major general. It is officered now quite sufficiently."

HOW HE MIGHT ACT.

"Supposing it were what you wanted, and you were in command, would you respond?"

"I am inclined to think I would. I have enough respect for law and order to make me obey the commands of my superior officer."

"Do you think the volunteer militia will be prompt to turn out if called on?"

"Yes, they must do so; they have no discretion in the matter."

"What is the penalty for disobedience of orders?"

"I do not just now remember, but the law provides condign punishment for any such offence."

When asked his opinion about the removal or intended removal of arms by companies of volunteer militia, General Chamberlain said there was nothing to prevent such removal by the order of the captain, but the Governor could put a stop to it by simply calling them in. General Chamberlain, in closing the conversation, said that he believed in the good sense of the people of Maine, and was confident that wise counsels would prevail. He regarded the proposition to refer to the courts all disputed law points as eminently judicious. If the controversy were not settled by that means he for one would rather lie under the perpetration of a wrong and appeal to the ballot box next year than cast a stain on the honor and fame of his native State by inaugurating a revolution. "Just think of Maine being classed with Louisiana," he said. The picture was too dark to bear much examination, and the HERALD correspondent said goodby.

THE MAYOR OF AUGUSTA PROMISES TO MAINTAIN ORDER—DECIDED OPPOSITION TO HAVING THE MILITIA AT THE STATE HOUSE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

AUGUSTA, Dec. 29, 1879.

Everything has been quiet here to-day in official circles. Governor Garcelon came up from Lewiston at noon, and only stopped a few hours. He then went to Belfast, where he made a speech. During his stay in town he had a conference with Mayor Nash, who asked him to leave the care of the State property to the municipal authorities, guaranteeing perfect order and quiet during the organization of the Legislature.

The Mayor passed to the Governor the following communication:—

CITY OF AUGUSTA, MAYOR'S OFFICE, Dec. 29, 1879.

To His Excellency ALONZO GARCELON, Governor of Maine:—

SIR—The excited condition of the public mind concerning the Legislature that is soon to assemble induces me to address Your Excellency upon a matter of grave public moment. The people of Augusta are loyal to the legally constituted authorities of the State in the exercise of every lawful act and duty, and would feel great pain and mortification at any lawless act or lack of decorum on the part of an excited populace in connection with the organization of the Legislature, and I am warranted in hereby tendering to the State the service of hundreds of sworn policemen, should a force, unhappily, be needed for keeping the peace in the Capitol district or elsewhere in the city. Our city has increased its police force to 200 good men of different political parties, and these and any necessary number additional are at the State's disposal to carry out any request which the State authorities will communicate to me touching the maintenance of order and the complete preservation of public peace. I cannot refrain from expressing the hope that Your Excellency will feel justified in relying upon the services of our citizens thus freely tendered, and by so doing will see no necessity for calling out troops to perform the same duty. Your Excellency will pardon me for suggesting that the occupation of the State House by armed men or the placing of war material therein will tend to disturb the public mind. The approaching Legislature is the fiftieth that has assembled in that building in as many consecutive years, and never before, even in the excitement of civil war, with thousands of troops encamped near by, has it required the services of a single policeman to preserve order in its halls. Its doors have always been open to the ingress and egress of all well behaved citizens, and I trust that Your Excellency will see that the character of the building in that regard is sacredly maintained. The great aversion of the people to any other course is suggestively witnessed by the recent resistance in Bangor to the movement of war material supposed to be destined for the State House. That incident, in connection with the many suggestions in the public prints, has induced me to address this letter to Your Excellency.

Your Excellency will perceive that if one party to a controversy shall arm the other will do the same, and with both parties armed a conflict might ensue which all would deeply deplore. I feel confident that if no troops are called out by the State authorities no bodies of armed men will come to the Capitol on the assembling of the Legislature, and the civil police of the city will be amply competent to deal with all cases of individual riot or disorder that may arise. With great respect, your obedient servant,

CHARLES E. NASH, Mayor.

I have good reasons to believe, however, that His Excellency will be guided entirely by circumstances, and that if he feels the need of the militia he will call out a few companies, four having already tendered their services—namely, the Auburn Light Infantry, the Lewiston artillery, the Oldtown company and the Montgomery Guards, of Portland. Advices were received here to-day that Adjutant General Leavitt would be in Bangor to-night, and that he carried with him an order from Governor Garcelon to remove the arms from the Bangor Arsenal which were stopped in the street Christmas day. They will be brought to Augusta to-morrow. Five thousand rounds of ammunition came from Portland to-day and were safely deposited in the State House. Petitions come in by every mail from all parts of the State urging the reference to the Supreme Court, on the basis laid down by ex-Governor Morrill. The republicans do not expect this, but they rely on the strong sentiment created by the proposition and the part acceptance by the Governor to make political capital and gain strength for their party in the nation. The democrats and greenbackers are strongly opposed to the reference, as they regard it as a trick of their opponents. They heartily applaud a letter written by Frank Bird, of Massachusetts, in which he takes the ground that the Court has no jurisdiction, and that even if it were to give an opinion it would have no binding force whatever. The Governor and Council feel that the publication of Lot M. Morrill's letter twelve hours before it reached the Executive Chamber was a sad breach of official courtesy, especially as it was generally known here that the letter was written Saturday. It was prepared under the supervision of Senator Blaine, and it is whispered that the larger portion of the communication was in the handwriting of his secretary.

UNITED STATES PROPERTY IN DANGER.

The latest report here is that in case the Governor refuses to send in the points of the letter for the action of Court a majority of the present Senate will do so. It is hard to see how that can be done, as it at all it must be officially, and by the Senate in session, and nobody can convene the Senate excepting the Governor. It is understood to-night that Major Farley, commandant of the United States Arsenal in this city, has written to the department in Washington asking for reinforcements to protect United States property. He has in his care about ten thousand stand of arms, several field pieces and a large quantity of powder and cartridges, with only about a dozen men to guard them. A Gatling gun, which stood in the yard, has been taken apart and stored away. Mayor Farley assumes that if the city were captured by a mob they would, in all likelihood, seize the arsenal and arm themselves from its stores.

ANOTHER MEETING AT ROCKLAND TO STRENGTHEN THE HANDS OF THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

ROCKLAND, Me., Dec. 29, 1879.

One of the largest meetings ever held in Rockland took place at Farwell Hall this evening, the hall being completely packed and hundreds unable to obtain admission. Jeremiah Totman, until recently a leading republican, presided, and in his remarks bade a long farewell to his party as that of treason and oppression. Congressman Murch was the first speaker, and warmly eulogized the Governor and Council for defending the constitution and carrying out its provisions according to its interpretation by the Supreme Court. That no certificate was given to any one as Representative from Rockland was the fault or none but the numbskulls who dominate the city, who were too stupid to follow the plain provisions of the law. They said E. F. Pillsbury had sent blanks with only three lines, but the three signed. How long since republicans followed the lines of Mr. Pillsbury? And if they did so, instead of following the law, who was to blame if the city was unrepresented for a time? He denounced the republicans for frauds, intimidation and bribery by them at the September election, and congratulated the people that the stupidity of the Aldermen had made it possible for the Legislature to sweep away the web of fraud which had been woven about the freedom of the ballot. There would be a full and fair investigation and perfect justice would be done. The disregard of law on the part of republicans and its strict observance by the Governor only made this possible. He had not been a political friend of Governor Garcelon. He was elected by a republican Senate and the greenbackers had approved him, but his course for the past two months was worthy of all praise and entitled him to gratitude of every friend of an honest ballot and of law and order. He paid his respects to the howlers for blood and especially the clergymen who on Friday evening had joined it, characterizing them as libels on the Christian religion. He hoped the State authorities would repress disorder fomented by republican vandals with a stern hand. Commenting on the Bangor riot, he said the Governor would not have done his whole duty till he had apprehended Boutelle and recovered the State property. Mr. Murch was followed by J. H. Martin, of Camden, the democratic candidate against him last year. He fully indorsed the Governor, and related at length the frauds practised in former years with the returns by republicans and particularly by Daniel F. Davis. Speeches were also made by Representative Perry, of Camden; Senator Thompson, of Friendship; Samuel Watts, and J. E. Moore, of Thomaston. Congratulatory telegrams were received from A. P. Gould, Halsey Monroe, fifty citizens of Union and others. Resolutions were adopted. Immense enthusiasm prevailed throughout.

THE GOVERNOR ADDRESSES A MEETING AT BELFAST—HE REPEATS THE STORY OF THE OFFICIAL CANVASS OF VOTES.

BELFAST, Me., Dec. 29, 1879.

Hayford Hall was packed to its utmost capacity this evening, in response to a call for a "law and order" meeting to sustain the Governor and Council. The meeting was called to order by William F. Colburn, and the following officers were chosen:—Chairman, William H. Rust; Vice Presidents—C. B. Hazeltine, W. H. Burrill, George R. Sleeper, of Belfast; Crosby Fowler, of Unity; William Berry, of Burnham; D. K. Drake, of Jackson; E. C. Freeman, of Lincolnville; W. S. Pendleton, of Islesboro'; F. A. Dickey, of Northport; Joseph Park, of Searsport; John Heagan, of Stockton; Thomas Storer, of Morrill; James Bicknell, of Belmont. Secretary—Lucien H. Murch. Committee on Resolutions—W. H. McLellan, George E. Wallace, Joseph Williamson, R. W. Ellis and F. H. Durham. Mr. Rust on taking the chair addressed the meeting in a brief speech and read abstracts from various speeches made at recent republican meetings, and claimed they were revolutionary in character. He was very severe upon the republicans and accused them of carrying the recent election by wholesale bribery.

ANOTHER SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR.

Governor Garcelon was then introduced and was received with loud applause. He began by saying that he had not come to the meeting to make an apology for anything he had done or left undone. He spoke of the recent election and of rumors current soon after it took place in regard to the counting of the votes. He said that prominent republicans had then said that the law of 1877 was clearly unconstitutional, and named William P. Frye as one of the number. He gave a full explanation of the constitutional requirements in regard to the duty of town officers and of the Governor and Council as to the election returns. He said that when the returns were laid before the Legislature they would in every instance be found correctly tabulated. He claimed that the returns were canvassed strictly in accordance with the constitution and laws and without regard to one party or the other. He spoke of the republican committee who visited him at the beginning of the canvass, and said that he then told the committee that he himself had never yet seen a single one of the returns. For the past few weeks the most abominable lies had been daily sent forth in regard to the counting of the votes. The returns from some of the large cities were fatally defective, and the Governor and Council had nothing to do in regard to them but to strictly follow the requirements of the constitution and the law. The Legislature will undoubtedly do justice by the cities not represented, as the two branches are judges of the election of their own members. The Governor spoke particularly of the Portland returns and claimed that they agree strictly with the record, and therefore could not be amended, even under the law of 1877. The Danforth district was next spoken of, and the Governor made a statement in regard to the returns from that town. He said the record had been altered long after the election, at the request of George A. Curran, of Calais, who said he had the letter of the Town Clerk of Danforth in his pocket stating that he had changed his record under orders from the republican Board of Selectmen. The Governor said all the returns would be presented to the Legislature on the 7th of January unless the State House was seized by a mob and the returns destroyed previous to that time. He challenged any man to put his finger on a single thing he had done which was not strictly in accordance with the constitution, the laws and precedents. At the close of his speech the Governor was loudly applauded and three cheers were given for him.

William H. McLellan, Attorney General, next addressed the meeting. He commenced by referring to the clergymen who had spoken at the indignation meeting on Saturday evening, and said they had made many false statements. He denied, emphatically, the statement that has been made that he had advised the Governor not to submit the questions in dispute to the Supreme Court, as requested by Lot M. Morrill. He said it ill-becomes republicans to make such a great ado about the recent count of the votes in this State when they all upheld the counting out of Tilden in 1876. At the same time, he said, he did not attempt to justify anything wrong on that account, but no man could name a single wrong that had been done in regard to the recent canvass of the votes in this State.

A. G. Jewett then spoke briefly. He attacked the law of 1877 relating to the correction of returns and said it was against the clear provisions of the constitution and should not be obeyed. He advised the people not to support or attend any church at which politics were preached. The republicans had attempted to carry the election in this State by bribery, but happily had been checkmated by the Governor and Council. A despatch from Augusta was read which was signed by C. F. Pillsbury and 360 others; also a letter from J. D. Lamson, Senator from this county. Resolutions were then read and adopted. They condemn bribery at elections, and say that no claimant ought rightfully to be inducted into an office obtained through such means, and pledge support to the Governor and Council in all constitutional and legal acts.

Speeches were made by R. W. Ellis and Captain Charles Baker, and the meeting closed with three cheers for Governor Garcelon.

DENIAL OF SENSATIONAL STATEMENTS STARTED AT GARDINER.

GARDINER, Dec. 29, 1879.

On reading the statement in this morning's *Globe* that Captain Berry, of the Richards' Light Infantry, had arrangements made to remove the arms of the company from the armory on Sunday night to some place where he could command their use, and also that he openly avows his intention to refuse to obey any summons to turn his command out for the service of the State if Governor Garcelon calls upon him to do so, a correspondent called upon Captain Berry to ascertain if the statements were true. Captain Berry declared the statements without foundation. He says that he had been spending Christmas in Boston, and on his arrival Sunday morning he was met at the depot by his orderly sergeant, who said that he, with a few men, were watching the armory so that no unauthorized persons might remove the guns. This was done without any orders, the Captain having given no orders to any officer or private, either before or during his absence, and was simply a precaution taken by the orderly sergeant, who knew the Captain to be personally responsible for all the State property in his possession. The arms are still in the armory and have never been moved. He states, furthermore, that he has never expressed any opinion whatever as to what he would or would not do in future, and shall not do so until orders are received. Though a republican in politics he understands his duties as a soldier, and regrets that any such sensational and pernicious story should have been given to the public.

A statement that the "talk indulged in by the ministers has created more excitement in Gardiner than anything else" is contradicted. Hard feeling exists among a few in consequence, but there is nothing like general excitement. The citizens of Gardiner, as a whole, seem to be quietly awaiting the result of the meeting of the Legislature next week.

A NOTICE TO THE MONTGOMERY GUARDS.

PORTLAND, Dec. 29, 1879.

Captain Lynch, of the Montgomery Guards, has notified his men to be ready to march at an instant's notice, which fact leads to the inference that the Guards and the Light Infantry will be called to Augusta.

GENERAL BUTLER GETS IN HIS OPINION ON THE MUDDLE—DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAINE AND LOUISIANA.

BOSTON, Dec. 29, 1879.

General Benjamin F. Butler has stated to a reporter his views on the situation in Maine. He contradicts the statement that has been made in some quarters that he has given Governor Garcelon and Council legal advice on the course they have taken. He had never been asked to advise about that matter. He does not see how the Governor and Council could have acted otherwise than they have and strictly followed the constitution and laws.

"The Governor is not a judge," General Butler is reported as having said, "nor are he and the Council a returning board, but simply a canvassing board. They are to ascertain who appear to be elected from the returns, certified by them under the provisions of the constitution and laws. Whether the defects discovered are amendable or unamendable under the laws I don't know. Most of them would seem to be amendable by the final judge, the Legislature."

General Butler thinks the only way for the republicans to meet the situation is by legal, constitutional means.

In response to the question as to whether the Maine Legislature can choose the seven Presidential electors next year, General Butler said:—

"Certainly. That is provided for by the constitution of the United States, which says the electors are to be chosen in any way the Legislature may appoint."

The General does not believe there will be any fighting in Maine. He thinks there is too much common sense. He sees no parallel between the action of the Louisiana Returning Board in 1876 and the present condition of affairs in Maine. The difference, he says, is very observable. In Louisiana the Returning Board claimed and exercised the power of counting votes not thrown which they said ought to have been thrown; whereas, in Maine, the Governor only decides; he has no power to judge between the electors and the elected, except upon legal evidence brought before him, and then his act is not judicial but simply ministerial.

A TALK WITH EX-GOVERNOR CURTIN.

EVERYTHING BUT AMERICAN POLITICS—AN ANECDOTE OF HIS MINISTRY IN RUSSIA.

There was a gathering of notables at the New York Hotel last evening. Gentlemen prominent in the politics of fully eight States were scattered about the corridors or sitting in the smoking rooms. Prominent among them was ex-Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, who had arrived the night before. Governor Curtin was in a chatty mood when accosted by a reporter of the HERALD, but evinced a delightful coquettishness when the subject of politics was introduced. It was really a matter of painful surprise to learn that the Governor knew so little of the politics of his native land, and the pleasant little smile he would give when switching the conversation from the political situation to the snows of Russia or the sands of Africa was strangely suggestive of his extended experience as a diplomat.

"But, Governor," the reporter persisted, "what do you think of the Grant 'boom?'"

"Well, I really do not know what to think. You see I live a good way back in the country and we do not always know as much as you city people."

"Yes, of course; but then Pennsylvania was very enthusiastic over his return."

"That is so. His reception in Philadelphia was really magnificent. I arrived there on the day of the parade. It was a splendid affair."

"Do you think he will be the next President?"

The Governor smiled and drew a long breath as he replied:—"I do not know, of course, whether he will be nominated by the republican party, or if he wants to be."

"But——?"

"By the way, that reception in Philadelphia was entirely outside of politics. It was not a republican manifestation by any means."

"Well, then, Governor, what do you think of affairs in Maine?"

"The affairs there are deplorable, indeed. But I think there will be no bloodshed. They will not do anything so foolish as to come to blows. We Americans have a very good and common sense way of arranging such difficulties. I do not know a great deal about the affair except what I read in the HERALD. They will settle it without bloodshed, I am sure. By the way, it is extraordinary how the HERALD is distributed over the country. I am about nine hours from Philadelphia and yet I get the HERALD about three o'clock on the day of publication."

"How do national politics appear as viewed from Washington?"

"I have not been to Washington much of late. I am contesting a seat in Congress. The greenback candidate, or the national candidate, in my district claims to have been elected by about forty-odd votes, and my friends insisted on my contesting the election. The evidence has all been placed before the proper committee, and I am now awaiting their decision. So I have not been to Washington much, and of course do not know a great deal about matters there."

"How about Russian affairs, Governor? The nihilistic movement seems to be very serious."

"Yes, that nihilist business is a terrible thing. The suspense and disorder are sapping the root of all good order and government. They are having a great deal of trouble over there. Speaking of Russia reminds me of a gentleman of your paper I met when I was there—Mr. MacMahan—a very bright, gentlemanly and talented man. He travelled a good deal with General Sherman and me. The poor fellow, I am told, died of fever in Turkey. He was most pleasant company and deserved the reputation he achieved.

"ALEXIS HAS ARRIVED."

"And speaking of that reminds me of a little incident that occurred when I was Minister to Russia. You remember when Duke Alexis came to this country, he was at sea a very long time. The Russians are not very good sailors and there was much uneasiness felt. As the time went on and nothing was heard of him the suspense was absolutely painful, and at last the Emperor was fully convinced that he would never see him again. Of course this suspense and dread was known in New York, and every effort was made by the Russian government to obtain as early tidings as possible. The entire court was plunged in grief. One day while this feeling was at its height a Russian officer was dining with me. He had just come from the palace and told me how painfully the Emperor was affected. While we were eating a despatch was handed me, which read as follows:—

Alexis has arrived.

"It was from the HERALD, and I showed it to the officer. He, of course, was overjoyed, and hastened to the palace with the news. It was the first news the Emperor received, notwithstanding the Russian Minister and consuls were all on the *qui vive* for information. It was hours ahead of the news from any other source, and was the cause of many compliments to the HERALD throughout Russia. I only mention this incident as showing the wonderful enterprise of the American press."

Governor Curtin was here reminded of his dinner, which awaited him.

A MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CAMPBELL.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29, 1879.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

The Commissioner of Public Works was in error when, in an interview with your reporter, he stated that from "time immemorial permits had been granted to builders to occupy a portion of the street and sidewalk for building purposes." From the year 1867 to 1870 no building permits were given by the Street Department to builders to occupy the street or sidewalk for building or any other purpose. The same rule applied to encumbrances of all descriptions—showcases, swinging signs, &c. There was no deviation from this rule. The order was rigidly enforced until the Street Department merged into the Board of Public Works. I think Mr. Campbell will find the same authority vested in the Bureau of Encumbrances now as then. If so he has only to assume the responsibility without calling in the aid of the Police or any other department. Let Mr. Campbell do his duty fearlessly and the public will sustain him as they did

GEORGE W. MACLEAN.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the World's Fair was held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening. Twenty members were present, among them being Messrs. H. G. Stebbins (president), Samuel A. Haines, W. A. Cole, Rufus Hatch, F. L. Tallcott, Colonel C. K. Graham, J. Trumbull Smith, A. M. Kirby, M. C. Adams, B. A. Willis, A. Schlesinger, P. J. Schneider and W. H. Price, secretary. The only business transacted was the passage of a resolution that a grand mass meeting should be held at Chickering Hall on the 14th or 15th prox., at which a number of distinguished gentlemen should be invited to speak in behalf of the proposed World's Fair. Mr. Stebbins was invited to preside at this meeting. The sub-committee reported progress.

CHARLES STEWART PARNELL.

FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY OBSTRUCTIONIST—A REVENUE CUTTER TO MEET THE SCYTHIA.

The Executive Committee having charge of the arrangements for a reception to Mr. Charles Stewart Parnell, on his arrival on the Cunard steamship Scythia, met as room 24 Cooper Institute last evening. Judge Alker presided. Dr. Phillip E. Donlin and Thomas N. Batterman acted as secretaries. A number of delegates were admitted as members of the Executive Committee. A committee from the Parnell Central Union presented their credentials and asked to have a representation on the Reception Committee as well as on the Executive Committee. This provoked a long discussion and ended in excluding from the privileges of the floor delegates who were not invited to the meeting. The political complexion of the Reception Committee was canvassed at considerable length owing to complaints having been circulated that there was a tendency to have too many of one party on the committee and a disposition to make the whole thing a political matter. Several speakers informed the gentlemen present that the whole object of the selecting committee was to get a representative committee only, and there was no such end in view as had been imputed to them. The chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. Charles O'Rourke, reported that the subscriptions now amounted to $415 and the expenditures to $123 78. There was $219 afterward subscribed by the members of the committee present. It was decided that the committee have a Parnell headquarters at Room 118, Astor House, at which all information regarding the reception could be obtained. Collector Merritt promised a committee which called upon him to allow the use of a revenue cutter to go out to meet the incoming steamer. The committee adjourned subject to the call of the chair.

FIFTH AVENUE OR WINDSOR?

The Reception Committee met afterward, with General Martin T. McMahon in the chair and Thomas R. Bannerman, secretary, to perfect arrangements. A member of the Reception Committee stated that Mrs. Parnell had told him her son would probably go to the Windsor Hotel, and that the committee might change their preparation to that hotel from the Fifth Avenue. Many members objected, as the Windsor was too far up town. They might receive Mr. Parnell at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, and he could go afterward to whatever hotel he pleased. It was decided that the address should be delivered on board of the Scythia if she came into port before three o'clock P. M. if she reaches Quarantine too late to be passed by the Health Officer, the Reception Committee will proceed to the foot of Clarkson street at nine o'clock in the morning. White badges for the Reception Committee and green badges for the Executive Committee will be ready at room 118 Astor House to-morrow.

A MASS MEETING HELD IN NEWARK AND A HANDSOME FUND RAISED FOR THE RELIEF OF IRISH SUFFERERS.

Pursuant to a call issued by George B. Jonkinson, President of the Board of Trade and some seventy other well known citizens of Irish birth or extraction, a mass meeting of Irish-Americans was held at the Newark Opera House last night. Every seat was filled. On the stage sat all the gentlemen who signed the call, also Colonel Morgan L. Smith, General W. W. Ward, Cortlandt Parker, Senator W. H. Francis, Assemblyman James M. Patterson, Dr. E. H. Mark, Gottfried Krueger, Dr. Denis Dowling Mulcahy, Rev. Dean J. N. Stansbury, Mayor elect W. H. F. Fiedler, Henry G. Darcy, Colonel C. Meyer Zulick, Mr. E. F. McDonald and many others. The meeting was called to order by Mr. P. T. Quinn, who nominated as chairman Mayor Henry J. Yates. The nomination was made unanimous. Vice presidents were appointed from each ward as follows:—First ward, M. Shandley; Second, Dr. James Elliott; Third, J. W. Smyth; Fourth, John C. Durning; Fifth, Colonel James E. Fleming; Sixth, William McDermitt; Seventh, Patrick Hogan; Eighth, James Smith; Ninth, Robert Gray; Tenth, John Reilly; Eleventh, John McDonough; Twelfth, P. Doyle; Thirteenth, James McCourt; Fourteenth, Christopher Nugent, and Fifteenth, William Carrolton. The following secretaries were chosen:—James F. Connolly, Joseph Atkinson and J. J. Berry. The first speaker was Vicar General Doane. The very reverend gentleman said that Dean Swift's speech was the best charity sermon ever delivered. It was:—"He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord. And now, if you want a receipt, down with the dust!" Mr. Cortlandt Parker next spoke, and dwelt eloquently upon the services Irishmen had rendered to humanity, and especially to the cause of freedom, civilization and national integrity in America. For himself he thought the best thing the Irish people could do would be to come to this country. (Applause and hisses.) The reason why he believed this was the true solution of the Irish question was that while the Irish in Ireland were not permitted to control their own affairs they could do so here with perfect freedom. In conclusion Mr. Parker said that he spoke in the sacred cause of charity and would invoke it with all his heart and soul. (Applause.) Rev. Dr. Thomas Rambaut, pastor of the First Baptist Church, made a feeling speech, calling upon his countrymen here and citizens generally to respond to the cry that came across the ocean from the dear old motherland. Warmly applauded speeches were also made by Dr. C. H. Makk, editor of the New Jersey *Freie Zeitung*; Rev. John H. Robinson, of Paterson; Mr. P. F. McDonald and Dr. Thomas Dunn English.

HUNDREDS SUBSCRIBED.

The following gentlemen were appointed an executive committee to take charge of all money raised or to be raised and to devote the same to the object in view, according as their judgment shall direct:—Geo. B. Jenkinson, C. Nugent, John McGregor, James E. Fleming, George A. Halsey, Patrick Reilly, John Dwyer, Hugh Smith and Thomas H. Dawson. Before the meeting closed a fund was started and a handsome amount raised. The employés of C. Nugent & Co. contributed over $300. Several gentlemen on the stage each contributed $100. The vice presidents of the meeting were severally authorized to act as ward collecting committee.

INSPECTOR MURRAY'S RAID.

Inspector Murray's office at Police Headquarters had the appearance of a Bowery variety shop last night. The desks and chairs were covered with ladies' dresses, shawls, gloves, necklaces, trinkets, articles of jewelry and laces in profusion. All these articles were the result of a raid which the Inspector and his aids had made on the apartments of William Woodhull, alias Maxwell, alias McDonnell. The latter, whom the police declare to be an old offender, was under official surveillance. Inspector Murray, assisted by Sergeants Young and Meakim and Roundsman O'Toole, kept a constant watch upon his movements. Last Sunday Woodhull hired a furnished hall bedroom on the second floor, front of No. 52 Henry street. The house is rented by a respectable family, who were not acquainted with the character of their tenant. In the course of their watching yesterday the police declare they saw a number of men go into Woodhull's apartment and leave soon after carrying bundles. The officers say they could see these people enter the room from the opposite side of the street, where Inspector Murray had stationed his men. They were shadowed, and not a few of them were found to enter pawn shops. About six o'clock last evening a descent was made upon the place. In the room were four men, who were taken into custody. They gave their names as follows:—William Woodhull, who rented the apartment; Charles A. Antwin, No. 37 Stanton street; William Fields, No. 78 East Houston street, and John Burns, who refused to give his residence. Fields and Antwin claim that they had no connection with the two men whose company they were in, and Inspector Murray stated that he had every reason to believe their story. The small compartment was littered with valuable articles of female wearing apparel and fancy articles. In the lining of Woodhull's hat there was found seven pawn tickets and in his pantaloons pocket a seven chamber revolver. In the bureau a burglar's jimmy was also discovered. The prisoners and the stolen goods were taken to Police Headquarters, where the former were locked up. When questioned how he came by so much valuable property, Woodhull replied that it was given to him by an unknown man whom he had met in Philadelphia, at the corner of Thirteenth and Ellsworth streets. The pawn tickets represented a music box, on which was secured $8 50, said to be worth $100; one shawl, $2 25; one ring, $2; a shawl, $7, and different other articles pawned in various pawn shops. Following is the list of stolen property found in Woodhull's room:—One white silk opera shawl, with flowers wrought in by needlework, worth $250; one paisley shawl, camel's hair border, $100; one silk, gold striped, shawl, $50; one brown silk and satin suit, $100; one black and white silk suit, green trimmings, $100; one pearl colored wrapper, $50; twenty five yards green rep silk, worth $2 per yard; one black silk sacque, bead trimmings, $25; a quantity of kid gloves; five pairs of fine stockings, marked "A" and "F" in red letters; a large number of stereoptican views, two strings of imitation pearl beads, a mounted magnifying lens, a quantity of lace collars and articles of jewelry.

MANGLED BY A TRAIN.

At a quarter past nine o'clock yesterday morning the westward bound Patchogue accommodation train on the Long Island Railroad struck a horse and man and killed both instantly, at the Dutch Kills crossing, just outside of Long Island City. The man's name was Michael Joyce, and he was over sixty years of age. He was torn into pieces, and his brains were dashed against the end of a building twenty feet away. The horse was also knocked into pieces, and portions of his flesh were found on the roof of the same building. At the point where the accident happened there is a long and sharp curve, and at the time Joyce was standing between the tracks trying to move the horse ahead or back him up, but could not do either, as the cart which was hitched to him was too heavily laden. The engineer, George Donaldson, states that when he first saw the man and horse they were on the coping, and he thinks the man was trying to back the horse off the track. The man was standing with his back to the train and did not look around when the whistle was blown, which occurred when the train was within a hundred feet of him. The passengers described the scene as most shocking, human flesh and horseflesh being mixed indiscriminately.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

THE SUBJECT OF THE INTEROCEANIC RAILROADS DISCUSSED—THE ADVANTAGES OF THE VARIOUS ROUTES SET FORTH.

A meeting of the American Geographical Society was held at their rooms, No. 11 West Twenty-ninth street, last evening, for a final discussion of the interoceanic railroad question, which has engaged the attention of the society for some years past. The president, Chief Justice Daly, occupied