EVENING STAR.

TUESDAY..... September 2, 1873.

LOCAL NEWS.

Amusements, &c., To-night.

Wallis' Opera House.—Second night of "Under the Gas Light" with a strong company.

Theater Comique.—Miscellaneous performance, of Ethiopean Eccentricities, ollos, songs, dances, and a screaming after-piece.

Condensed Locals.

The Arlington base ball club defeated the Cooke nine yesterday; score, 27 to 9.

Logan Williams, garbage master for the third and fifth districts, has resigned, and John Harris has been appointed in his stead.

The Philadelphia base ball club yesterday defeated in that city the Washington club of this city by a score of 13 to 7.

The entire police force was paid off to-day by the Attorney General of the United States, for the month of August.

The September term of the Equity Court was convened by Judge Humphreys to-day and a large number of orders were made.

Christophus Adaman was found by a police officer, on 14th street at 1:45 o'clock to-day, in a dying condition, and was sent to the Freedman's hospital.

The jury on the condemnation of lands for the W. C. & P. L. railroad this morning awarded F. Fredericks for 31 acres $1,535 for land and $200 for the improvements.

Inspector Ludington condemned during the week ending August 31: Bunch fish, 67; crabs, 600; clams, 270; also 25 boxes of peaches and 1,050 watermelons.

Yesterday Attorney Miller presented sixty-nine District cases for prosecution in the Police Court—the largest number of District cases in any one day since the organization of this court.

The Virginia republican association were addressed on the political issues of the Virginia campaign last evening by Hon. Joseph Segar, Judge Riley, and Mr. Brewer, of Tenn.

The railroad from Charlotte, Va., to Atlanta, Ga., has been completed, making a direct air line from Richmond to Atlanta, furnishing a new route for the through southern travel.

The annual retreat for the Catholic clergy of the archdiocese of Baltimore, which commenced at St. Mary's seminary, Baltimore, last Wednesday evening, will terminate to-morrow.

The fourth district schools, on opening yesterday, had all their transfers made by noon and the schools commenced well for the ensuing year. This morning about 200 applicants were admitted.

The Concord grapes grown by Mr. Bramhall, of Virginia, and on exhibition at the rooms of the Potomac Fruit Grower's Association are fine specimens and show the progress of the Old Dominion in the culture of the vine.

At the annual king and prize shooting of the Schuetzen Verein Germania, held at their park yesterday, (Gales' woods,) Mr. David Kleinman was the most successful shot, and was therefore crowned as king for the ensuing year.

At the meeting of the Amalgamated House Carpenters' and Joiner's association last evening J. F. Whitmore was reelected president, Wm. Hazel check steward and David Brosnan doorkeeper. A. L. Schultz was elected auditor.

Laborers are now employed removing the iron fence from around the Capitol grounds. It is to be turned over to the Board of Public Works and placed around the newly-made grounds on B street, between 7th and 12th streets, which forms an extension of the Smithsonian grounds.

A general response is being received to a circular recently sent out by the Board of Fire Commissioners of this city to the chief engineers of the fire departments of the leading cities suggesting that a convention of engineers and fire commissioners be held in Washington at an early day. Thus far about twenty replies have been received.

The friends of Mr. Wm. E. Vermillion called at his residence, on E, between 8th and 9th streets, southeast, last night, and tendered him a complimentary serenade on his renomination to the House of Delegates. He gracefully acknowledged the compliment, and on his invitation the party partook of refreshments.

The Burns club met last night, W. R. Smith in the chair and L. Gardner secretary. The library committee submitted a report and presented the association with several rare editions of Burns. They have also made arrangements for a course of seven lectures during the coming season, on Scottish subjects.

Yesterday the excursion given to Seabrook Park on the Baltimore and Potomac railroad by the Seabrook Association (a colored organization) was a great success, and a very pleasant day was enjoyed. Quite a number of those who attended the picnic at Bowie, four miles beyond, left that place on account of the invasion of roughs (noticed elsewhere,) and walked to Seabrook to spend the remainder of the day.

Serious Affray at a Picnic.

AN INVASION OF ROUGHS—TWO MEN SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AND A NUMBER OF OTHERS INJURED—NO ARRESTS.

A colored organization called the Twilight Aid Association, No. 1, gave a picnic yesterday at Huntington, and during the day an organized band of colored roughs from Capitol Hill and East Washington appeared on the ground and started a fight among themselves, which created the greatest consternation among the females and children. Cursing and indecent language was used, and above the tumult the reports of revolvers and flourishing of razors and knives was the order of exercises for some time, resulting in two men, Richard Riker and Sam Gray being seriously wounded, the former shot in the leg and the latter in the stomach. Several others were cut with razors or badly beaten, and the party was broken up and dispersed in all directions. A messenger was dispatched to Major Richards, who ordered a detail of officers from the 8th precinct to board the train on its arrival at the navy-yard and arrest the ringleaders. No arrests were made, however, as the party had become quiet on the arrival of the train. The wounded men were removed to their homes.

THE NEW NORTHERN MARKET-HOUSE.—At a meeting of the market-house commissioners, yesterday, the contract with Thomas Lewis for the erection of the market building on square No. 446 (Corcoran square) for $88,697, was read by Mr. Wall and signed by the members of the commission present. A communication was received from Alex. R. Shepherd, transmitting a list of all bills audited and passed by the Board of Public Works on the occasion of the erection of the Northern market-house, amounting in full to $12,131.45. Mr. Campbell stated that, as the commission had had nothing to do with the contracts for the erection of the temporary market sheds, he moved that all bills for such work be returned to the Board of Public Works, the contracting parties, for settlement; adopted. The chair presented a bill of $200 from Mr. Wm. Forsyth for services rendered in surveying the market grounds, which was ordered to be paid in bonds. A bill of $26.26 from the architect of the building, for plans, drawings, specifications, &c., was presented; and, on motion of Mr. Campbell, he was allowed five per cent. on the 7th street wing, and the whole amount ordered to be paid in bonds. Mr. Campbell, from the building committee, reported that the late rain had only slightly interrupted the work on the building, and since then the contractor has been pushing the work ahead rapidly and satisfactorily. He further stated that under no circumstances would he countenance the using of the building for political purposes.

SUDDEN DEATH IN A STABLE.—Last night, Officers Homer and Hinkle conveyed to the Central guardhouse the body of Wm. Norment, a colored man employed in the stable of Keyes & Smith, on 14th street, who had died suddenly in the office of the stable from some unknown cause. He had formerly been employed by Messrs. R. & S., but had left for the purpose of receiving treatment in the Freedman's hospital for consumption. About two weeks since he returned to the stables somewhat improved, and obtained permission to sleep there, and last night Henry Grimes, an employe, heard him groaning heavily, and on approaching him found that he was breathing his last. Coroner Patterson was notified, who, after learning the circumstances, ordered a post mortem examination of the body, which developed the fact that death was caused by paralysis of the heart. No inquest was deemed necessary. The body was turned over to friends of the deceased for burial.

THE REFORM SCHOOL.—The board of trustees of the reform school met at the office of the architect of the Capitol yesterday, and the resignation of Mrs. E. A. Mosher as matron was received and accepted, and Mrs. B. A. Howe was appointed her successor, to date from September 1st. A communication was read from B. Murphy and others, requesting the release of John Murphy, a boy. The president was authorized to reply to said petition, denying the request and inclosing a copy of report of the superintendent of the school in the case. The establishment of a new family was authorized as soon as the buildings will allow it. N. Sargent, esq., and F. W. Howe, superintendent, were elected delegates to the prison reform congress, to convene at St. Louis some time in May next. The president of the board, N. Sargent, esq., was authorized and requested to visit the reformatories of New England at the expense of the institution. Adjourned.

A NEW COMMERCIAL BUSINESS SCHOOL.—Gen. O. O. Howard, Z. Richards, John F. Cook, G. E. Baker, and William Perry Ryder, and the treasurer, J. B. Johnson, directors, and others, have established a new commercial school, under the principalship of Prof. L. Twitchell, which is to be located on the southeast corner of 10th and D streets, and which will be open for students on the 10th inst. In this circular of the school it is stated that the financial assistance pledged to its support by influential citizens guarantees its permanent establishment as a first-class institution.

UNSTROKE.—Yesterday morning a bricklayer named Monterey Ricketts was prostrated by sunstroke while laying the pavement on L street, between 18th and 19th. Officer Ryan and the neighbors took charge of him, and he soon recovered sufficiently to be removed to his house, No. 590 L street.

THE LAST OF BEAU HICKMAN.

AN ORIGINAL CHARACTER GONE.

Some Incidents of his Strange Career—He is Attacked with Paralysis—His Death at Providence Hospital, and Interment in Potter's Field.

Mr. Robert L. Hickman, familiarly known as "Beau" Hickman, died at Providence Hospital at about 4 o'clock this morning, after an illness of about two weeks. On Saturday last he was taken from his lodgings at the house of Mr. E. J. Barrick (who formerly kept the Franklin, now the Irving House, corner of 8th and D streets,) at 605 Maryland avenue, to the hospital, and since that time rapidly failed until his death, which was occasioned by paralysis.

"POOR BEAU!"

The death of so eccentric a character, and one who was so widely known on account of the peculiar manner in which he obtained a livelihood, is worthy of more than a passing notice, and hundreds of persons residing in different parts of the Union, who made the acquaintance of the deceased while on visits to the capital, and who have doubtless often good-naturedly responded to his dignified appeals for contributions, on reading this announcement will exclaim, "Poor Beau!" for, truth to tell, if Beau left no warm friends he leaves no enemies. Of

HIS EARLY HISTORY

but little can be gathered. It is generally stated, however, that he came of a good family, and that he was born in King William county, Va. It is also said that he was one of a family of six children—two boys and three girls—two of the latter having married Gen. Eaton, of N. C. It is further said that upon the death of his father, Beau, who had always been a gay boy, took his share of the paternal inheritance in cash, but exactly what his portion amounted to no one seems able to tell. It is thought, however, to have been about $10,000, although many assert that it was much more. Whatever it might have been, Beau managed to dispose of most of it in less than a year; like the prodigal son, wasting his substance in riotous living.

HIS RETICENCE IN REGARD TO HIS FAMILY.

No one was ever known to find out from Beau himself just how much money he had squandered, or to elicit from him any information as to the circumstances of his leaving home. On this point he allowed no one to question him. On one occasion during the rebellion an old acquaintance and patron of his said to him with the friendliest intentions, "Beau, why don't you write down to your old home and find out something about your family. The armies have ravaged that part of the country, and I should think you would feel anxious to know whether your old mother is alive." "Sir," said the offended Beau, drawing himself up, "please to mind your own business and let mine alone!" So deeply did he resent this imaginary insult that he never again spoke to the interrogator. "He seemed to feel," said the latter, relating the incident, "that I was acquainted with the circumstances of his leaving home; but I was not, and meant nothing but kindness."

HIS FIRST APPEARANCE IN WASHINGTON

was in 1832 or 1834, some forty years ago, when he was a young man of twenty-two or three. Old residents who are familiar with his career in Washington assert that he was "on the beat" when he first came here, although for about a year he appeared to have considerable money. He dressed elegantly, sported a gold watch and fob, carried a cane, wore a faultless beaver, and, in short, "was got up regardless." He announced himself as a sporting man and an expert in determining the speed of horses. He patronized the races, and on the ground was the observed of all observers, on account of his elegant attire and the positive manner in which he "talked horse." An old sporting man in this city, however, says he never knew Beau to bet a cent in his life, although he was willing to impart in advance the name of the winning nag to any person who in return would give him five or ten dollars.

HOW BEAU BEAT THE TAILORS.

For ten or fifteen years after his arrival in Washington, Beau managed to keep himself faultlessly attired. He would go to a tailor, and selecting materials of the most elegant and costly pattern, would order a suit. When the bill was presented Beau would express great regret at his impecuniosity; "his friend, President Jackson, who was a d——d good fellow, no matter what some folks might say, had borrowed a thousand dollars of him last night, and it was really impossible just then," &c. The tailor, overawed at the knowledge that his debtor moved in Presidential circles, was only too glad to wait. He generally did wait—in vain, however, for Beau seemed to believe implicitly in the Shakspearian adage, "Base is the slave that pays." When he found his excuses exhausted, Beau would argue with his tailor, representing that he would tell all his friends who made the suit, which would be a splendid thing for the tailor; and it is related that several tailors fitted the Beau out at different times with the most fashionable suits on the same condition. Beau was

BLASE AT TWENTY-FIVE.

In his younger days he drank wine, but, it is said, was seldom intoxicated. The first hotel in Washington which he honored with his patronage was Brown's, now the Metropolitan. He boarded there for a number of weeks, and evaded the payment of his bills under various pretexts for some time. Finally, after Marshall Brown had got a pretty good insight into the character of his guest, he said to him one day: "Beau, you have honored me with your company now for several weeks; suppose you just go across the way and patronize my friend, the proprietor of the National Hotel?" "All right, Mr. Brown," cheerfully responded Beau, and he proceeded to the National, where he ordered the best room in the house, and remained for a couple of months before his bill was presented. It seems that some visitor mistook the Beau for Gen. Hickman, of Kentucky, and the proprietor consequently thought, as Gen. H. had the reputation of being very wealthy, he would not be in a hurry about presenting his bill, which, it is needless to say, was never paid.

HOW HE RAISED THE WIND.

Soon after he became pretty well acquainted with Washington he became the guide of such visitors to the capital as desired to patronize houses of ill-fame and gambling-houses, and in this way, it is said, sometimes made from five to twenty-five dollars a day. When in gambling-houses he never played, but sometimes some one would give him a "chip," which he would at once get the banker to cash. He was early addicted to telling stories, for which he always demanded a red, white or blue chip, (named after the checks used in the game of faro,) according to the character of his story, or the apparent financial status of his listener. An old sporting man says of Beau:—"He always despised a liar. I have often seen him tell stories to a person and end up, as usual, by asking for chips, and sometimes the person would say he had no money. Subsequently, however, he would take out ten or twenty-five cents and offer it to Beau, but do you think Beau would take it? Not he! He would decline it with offended dignity, just because he had lied to him." Many of his stories were amusing, and frequently contained references to President Jackson, Clay, Benton, Webster, and others who had honored him with chips during their Congressional career. Possessed of some education, and a good conversationalist, always of an equable temper, and never inclined to be pugnacious and talk fight,

HE WAS TOLERATED BY STATESMEN

in his time, who would laugh at his jokes and introduce him to their friends from the states, frequently as "Gen. Hickman," and then retire to watch the bleeding process. The gentlemen unacquainted with Beau's little peculiarities would listen with the most respectful attention to the "general's" stories. At the conclusion of a yarn Beau would say, "I think, sir, that story is worth a quarter," whereupon the gentleman addressed would laugh, and remark, "Certainly it is," but not exactly comprehending Beau's drift would offer him no money. "Well, then, if it is," Beau would say, "please pass over the quarter." To say that the gentleman was astonished would convey but half the truth. He would look at the "general" quizically for a moment and finally discovering that he was in dead earnest would burst into a laugh, in which his friends would heartily join, and cash up, while Beau would go in search of another victim.

BEAU OFFERS TO PAY A BILL LIKE A MAN.

In his younger days he frequently went to New York, and sometimes to Norfolk, Baltimore, and Richmond, where he would remain a few weeks invariably "beating" the landlords out of their bills. Once he went to New York with an acquaintance, an old sporting man, and both put up at the first hotel in the city. Beau was as usual splendidly gotten up, and nine days elapsed before his bill was presented. When it was Beau took it to his friend and said "What am I to do? I hav'nt got a red." "Take this $1,000 bill said his acquaintance and offer to pay your bill." Beau did so and the clerk seeing him in possession of so large a sum said, "We can't change that; never mind, Mr. Hickman we can wait until you get the change just as well as not." It is almost unnecessary to say that while the clerk was waiting for the change Beau beat his way back to his old stamping ground in this city.

ON THE DOWN HILL OF LIFE.

About ten years since Beau began to go to the "demmition bow wows," as Mr. Mantilim would say, very rapidly. His dress became seedy, although he managed to maintain an appearance of shabby gentility at all times, and occasionally looked quite spruce. He also became quite lame, and always walked slowly and with a shuffling hitch, which gave him the appearance of being rheumatic. He always denied, however, that he had the rheumatism, and said it was his feet, which were covered with corns and bunions, the result of wearing tight boots. "The fact that my feet are crippled up so," he would say, "shows me to be a blood; no common man could have such feet as I have got."

Once several years ago some one procured for Beau an entire suit of velvet attached to which were minute bells. He doated on that suit for about a year, and when he entered a hotel would shake his coat which would set all the little bells jingling, and say, "I'm a bell team, I am!" His face resembled parchment, and his eyes looked red and inflamed. He was, in fact, for several years before his death an object of pity, and although he still continued to retail his yarns, especially on inauguration and other gala days, to crowds of strangers who generally compensated him pretty liberally, they had become stale to most of the habitues of the capital who finally tired of their repetition.

HIS FAVORITE STAMPING GROUND

of late years was in front of the National and Metropolitan hotels. Occasionally he would hobble up the avenue to Willard's, but he could generally be found around the hotels first named, leaning on his cane or sitting on a dry goods box, puffing a cigar, and gazing listlessly at the passers-by. He often bewailed the good old times before the war, when public men, he said, were more liberal than now. "The old set," he said, "were liberal, whole-souled fellows, and I never wanted for chips. The new set are good enough in their way; but they are too d—d economical."

BEAU NEVER DRANK

latterly, but when solicited would say, "I'll take a cigar;" or if he did not want to smoke, he would say, "I don't drink; but I'll take the price of a drink, if you have no objection." For two or three years past he took his meals at Leonard & Russell's marble saloon, and the proprietors bear testimony that he always paid for everything he got. He was very regular, eating three times daily, and was very moderate generally, making his meal come to about twenty-five cents. Sometimes his bill would be forty or fifty cents, when he would tender a quarter as usual, which would be accepted without any comment. He was very miserly in his habits, never being known to treat any one in his life, and it is reported had quite a handsome sum on deposit at Riggs & Co.'s bank. He was arrested a few years since as a vagrant, but convinced the court that he had money on deposit at the Bank of Washington, and was released. He subsequently, it is said, transferred his account to the bank first named.

HOW A WOMAN SLAPPED HIS FACE.

It is said that several years ago Beau lived on improper intimacy with a colored woman. Be this as it may, he was standing in front of the Kirkwood House one day a few years before the war, when two colored girls, one a mulatto, came down the Avenue. The bright one, on nearing the place where Beau was standing, made a dash at him, and knocking his hat off slapped his face. Beau made no attempt at resistance, but, hobbling after his hat, which was lying in the gutter, he shook his cane at the colored girl, exclaiming, "Never mind! I'll give you h—l when I get you home to-night!" This scene was witnessed by a large number of persons, who were much amused at the incident.

STEADY CONTRIBUTORS.

It is said that for several years past Beau has been the monthly recipient of certain sums from several wealthy gentlemen, among them being Mr. W. W. Corcoran. Beau was recently heard to inquire when Mr. Corcoran would return from the springs, remarking that "he had'nt paid up now for two months." He was never married, and up to the time of his death was probably about 62 or 63 years of age.

After his death this morning the Sisters at the hospital called on Mr. Burgdorf, the undertaker, to make the interment, and he promptly furnished a plain neat coffin, in which the remains were placed, and they were taken to the burial ground attached to the almshouse, and interred about 11 o'clock. This morning a party called at the hospital, and asked to see Col. "Beau" Hickman, and receiving answer that he had died a few hours before turned on his heel and left, apparently fearful of being asked to contribute towards giving him a respectable funeral. With this exception no one called at the hospital to see him or was present at the interment except the undertaker's assistants.

"NEVER RIGHT IN HIS HEAD."

An old acquaintance of Beau's said last night, "I never believed that Beau was right in his head. At any rate there was nothing positively bad in his character. He would beat, but still in many respects he was honest. He never borrowed money; he received it as a gratuity and not as a loan. There are many men in the world who have done more harm than poor Beau Hickman."

"No further seek his merits to disclose,
Nor draw his frailities from their dread abode."

THE LOCAL POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

Third District Republican Club.

A meeting of the third district republican club, (Georgetown, west of High street), was held last night at the Market house hall—W. H. Barker in the chair, and A. McCleish secretary. The chair in a few remarks urged that as the campaign promised to be a close and exciting one they should act unitedly.

The following committees were appointed: On Registration—Samuel R. Collins, Logan Williams, William Burdette, John Steele, and John R. Cole. Finance—Edwin Crouch, John Selby, Logan Williams, Lewis Harris, and John Parkhurst. Executive—George W. Beall, William R. Collins, Alfred Pope, Jerry Mitchell, and Robert Wilson.

Mr. Logan Williams offered a resolution, which was adopted, that "Looking at the gentlemanly manner in which Assistant Engineer Drew conducts himself and treats the men under him in the Fire department; resolved, that we do most heartily indorse him for the position of chief engineer of the fire department of the District of Columbia, believing as we do that it will give general satisfaction to the citizens of the District."

Mr. S. R. Collins moved as an amendment that Robert H. Booker, of the Board of Fire Commissioners, be recommended and indorsed for the position of assistant engineer; agreed to, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Logan Williams, it was resolved that the committee on registration be compensated for their services at the rate of $2.25 a day. The chair called attention to the necessity of getting in readiness for fixing upon their choice for delegate to the Legislature.

Adjourned.

Fifth District Republican Club.

A meeting of the Fifth district republican club was held last night in Jones' feed store, corner of 21st and K streets.

COMMITTEES

were announced by the chair as follows: Campaign committee—Henry Himber, W. T. Payne, Thomas Steepe, Annanias Spencer, Charles Cover, John C. Winn, John Chapman, Henry Edwards, Benjamin Grant, Henry Hensly, Randall Bowie, M. J. Quigley, Wm. Ward, T. Linkins, Wm. Green, A. Hannan, Henry Roy, Thos. Broderick, Wm. Payne, R. S. Hulse, F. Butler, Jas. Thomas, J. H. Pollard, S. Scott, and Silas Chapman. Executive committee—R. W. Brown, Joseph Anderson, C. H. Twine, T. Steepe, Chas. Lemas, J. C. Winn, and R. Gilmore. Finance committee—Wm. Fletcher, Dan. Williams, A. P. Fardon, J. A. Johnson, Thos. Lucas, Thos. Martin, Jas. Gannon, Henry Burch, and H. D. Peyton.

After an animated discussion it was decided to change the hour of holding a primary election for the selection of a candidate for the House of Delegates from afternoon to evening.

A resolution was offered denouncing

THE SO-CALLED BLACK MAN'S PARTY

and all those taking part in it, "believing it to be detrimental to us as laboring men; and believing that the party is led by a pack of demagogues, sore-heads, and office-seekers who have no interest in us as laboring men."

Mr. Himber supported the resolution, and was followed by Richard Brown, the latter having a voice as sweet and shrill as an Italian street warbler. He denounced the newspaper articles, agitating the line of demarcation between the blacks and whites, and took occasion to call the former a "handful of petty niggers." The latter remark called forth repeated cat calls and cries of "put him out," "put a head on him."

Mr. Thomas followed, stating that the supposed black man's party was the creation of the empty brain of Messrs. J. H. Brooks, Henry Johnson, and Phil. Murray, and grew out of the efforts of those men to wrest from the colored children their rights in regard to free schools. He claimed that the colored men were the bone and sinew of the republican party in the District of Columbia, and that they were slowly opening their eyes to the fact that they were used as voters by men who in the end reaped all the benefits. The black man's party was a scheme concocted to divide the party, and only one of the city papers had spoken of its existence. After a cross-fire of a personal nature between several members of the club, in which the presiding officer was alluded to in any but complimentary terms, the meeting adjourned.

THE COMING PIGEON SHOOTING MATCH.—A meeting of the Sportsman club was held last night, at which the committee on prizes for the forthcoming public pigeon shooting match, made the following report, which was adopted: Amateur match, for members who never shot over a trap for a prize or money, five birds each, a single trap, first prize, a corduroy hunting coat; second do., a nickel-plated powder flask and shot pouch; third do., a handsome leather gun-case. Second Match—Club match, two single birds, first prize, a gold medal; second do., a pair of hunting boots. Third Match—Club match, for double birds, first prize, a gold medal; second do., a nickel-plated powder flask and shot pouch. Fourth Match—Citizens' handicap match, for members and their friends, first prize, hunting coat; second do., a fishing rod and reel.

THE LAW SCHOOL OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY commenced its fourth annual session last evening. An unusually large number of students were in attendance. Fifteen states were represented besides the District of Columbia. The opening lecture was delivered by Vice Chancellor Wedgwood. Among other things, he stated that during the vacation he called on Mr. A. T. Stewart, of New York, and had a pleasant interview with him in reference to the endowment by Mr. Stewart of one of the colleges of the National University. Mr. Stewart has since made his will and left this country for Europe. He had reason to believe that Mr. Stewart had made a bequest to the university of at least one million of dollars.

UNDER THE GASLIGHT.—The reopening of Wall's opera house last night with Augustin Daly's well-known play, "Under the Gaslight," attracted a large and brilliant audience, which, considering the warm weather, was a decided compliment to the management. For a first night, with a company, or most of them, new to the house and the audience, the representation was very successful, and the dock scene and railroad scene were given with good effect. The company is a fair one, and several of its members—male and female—will no doubt become popular favorites.

Important Transfers of Real Estate.

Among the important real estate transfers recently, the following may be noted:—Part of lot 61, in square 212, fronting 90 feet on N street north, between 14th and 15th, containing 11,145 feet of ground, sold by J. M. Witherow, trustee, to Moses Kelly; $9,477. A. R. Shepherd to T. Berry, in trust, sub. B, square 4, fronting on 26th street, between I and K, improved by a three-story dwelling; $7,500. B. H. Warner to Horace G. Jacobs, part lot 12, square 280, fronting on O street, between 12th and 13th north, with improvements; $6,000. U. H. Painter to Mrs. C. A. McCartee, part lot 1, square 218, fronting 21 feet on 14th street, between 1 and K; $16,000. Andrew Rothwell to Mrs. Enders, parts 5 and 6, square 452, fronting 23 feet on 7th street, between I and K, with improvements; $9,000. Heirs of W. B. Todd to Mrs. Elizabeth G. Todd, lot 14, reservation 11, corner 3d and C streets; $40,000. F. W. Jones, trustee, to C. H. Moulton, part lot 5, square 253, fronting 31 feet 5 inches on F street, between 13th and 14th; $15,000. J. F. D. Lanier to D. D. Field, property on 1st street east, between East Capitol and A streets, 118 feet 3 inches front; $25,000. Jas. F. Russell to N. Acker, in trust for self, L. Clephane, G. Neitzey, Albert Gleason, P. McNamara, J. V. W. Vandenburg and Russell, square 861, nearly 200,000 feet, bounded by 6th and 7th and E and F streets northeast; $30,000. Mrs. A. P. Hoover to Postmaster General Creswell, the property in which he lives, fronting 41 feet on I street north, at the corner of 19th street; $25,000. General James G. Payne, as trustee, lot 19, square 514, the property of the late James Y. Davis, on M street, between 4th and 5th, to J. F. and S. T. Davis; $21,600. Ely S. Parker to J. F. Olmstead, an undivided half in square east of 546, and square east of 547, (neighborhood of Delaware avenue and M street southwest); $9,000. Part of square 410, between C and D and 9th and 10th street, by W. B. Webb, trustee, to C. B. Church; $9,606. E. P. Aistrop to Mrs. Nellie Hamlink, sub. 24, square 368, fronting on M street, between 9th and 10th; $20,000; A. K. Childs to W. M. Galt, sub. 7, square 570, E street, between 2d and 3d streets; $14,000. Mrs. Jane R. Eliot to A. Pardee, property fronting 24½ feet on C street, between 4½ and 6th streets; $9,500. F. N. Brown to C. H. Berrell, sub. 3, square 242, (in square between Rhode Island and Vermont avenues, N and 14th street); $7,735. M. F. Morris, trustee, to John O. Evans, 7 subdivisions in square 217, (Vermont avenue, between K and L streets); $42,257.

Magistrates and Constables.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

The committee to investigate magistrates and constables received a visit from Mr. L. M. Graves yesterday, who complained that in an article published in the *Republican* of August 29, 1873, his name appears among the list of unqualified constables on account of his failure to renew his bond at the proper time. He contended that Justice Carter, of the Supreme Court of the District, had decided that rebonding was not necessary.

COLORED ELOPERS FROM VIRGINIA.—Major Richards to-day received a letter from Gurney's, Caroline County, Va., stating that about 10 days ago a colored man named Andrew Jackson left a wife and four small children without means of support and ran off with one Maria Roys, colored, taking the cars for this city. The writer suggests that they be hunted up, and thinks that Andrew should be made to support his wife.

THE THEATER COMIQUE attracted a large crowd last night to witness the reopening performance, and it passed off to the satisfaction of all present. The bill was an entertaining one, and the performers among the best in the country. The new upholstery and the refitting of the house was much admired, and so were the ballet, the operatic burlesque, the Dutch eccentricities, and numerous other features of the entertainment.

BUILDING ASSOCIATION.—At the seventh monthly meeting of the Republic Savings and Building association last night, $8,700 (17 2-5 shares) was advanced on at an average premium of 96 per cent.

DR. W. H. BARRETT, dentist, returned to town yesterday.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

A Suggestion.

Editor Star: Should not the people of Washington take warning from the great fires of Chicago, Boston and Baltimore, and adopt all precautionary measures in their power to avert like disasters? One thing that should be done is, for the legislature to pass a law instructing the superintendent of buildings not to allow, *under any circumstances*, the erection of frame buildings of any description. It will be noticed that the fire in Baltimore originated in a portion of the city where frame buildings chiefly predominated, and the flames were fed at the beginning of the fire principally by wooden structures. The authorities of Baltimore, I understand, do not permit frame buildings of any kind to be erected now. The only wooden buildings in that city of any consequence, I am told, on good authority, were those that were destroyed in the late fire, and they were very old and well built before the regulations were adopted prohibiting the erection of frame buildings. It is true we have wide streets, but I think if a fire was to obtain any great headway in any part of our city where buildings of wood are thick it would do considereble damage even if the streets in the locality were wide, for it was clearly proved by the great fires that the heat from a mass of burning buildings traveled for miles. Our city is fast becoming thickly populated, and the erection of frame buildings should be stopped; it will be a move in the right direction. Let our intelligent citizens step forward in the matter. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." ABBE.

A FATAL DREAM.—A young man named John O'Neill, an employe of the Joliet Iron and Steel company, had a serious nightmare last Tuesday night. He went home from work at 1 o'clock in the morning and retired to rest. Soon after he got up and jumped out of the window, and fell 10 feet on a pile of stones, bruising himself externally and internally. The cause of the dream, as he asserts, was as follows: He and several others had been discussing what they would do in case of a railway collision such as the one on the Alton road. His idea was to jump out of the car window. When he went to sleep he commenced dreaming, and imagined he was on a train about to collide, and, to save himself, he jumped out of the window. His recovery is considered doubtful.—*Chicago Tribune.*

IN FAVOR OF THE CONFESSIONAL.—The Rev. Thomas K. Beecher, of New York, brother of Henry Ward Beecher, has occasioned considerable stir among the Congregational brethren by an elaborate essay in one of the leading religious weeklies, in justification and advocacy of auricular confession. Mr. Beecher says: "If it were the habit of a man to go to some reverend and trusted man of God once in two months and unbosom himself truthfully, can any sane man doubt that he would receive a benefit? Penitence of sins is usually much deepened when a fellow-man knows of it."

SINGULAR CASE OF A CHILD BLEEDING TO DEATH.—A singular case is that of a little son of Albert Warfel, of Lancaster, Pa., brother of Hon. John B. Warfel, senator from that county. The little fellow, while playing last Thursday, fell down and bit his tongue, and the bleeding could not be stopped, having severed an artery. For several days the blood oozed forth, the life current gradually passing away until the vital spark had entirely fled.

A MOTHER AND INFANT KILLED BY THE CARS.—The mutilated body of a colored woman, named Fannie Smith, was found near the Glen Cove branch of the Long Island railroad Sunday morning. She had been cut almost completely in two lengthwise, and the headless body of her child was found lying near.

☞"Nose paint" is a beverage dispensed in Iowa saloons.

☞"Hoof-beats" is the St. Louis vernacular for horse races.

☞A drove of 1,800 goats passed through Dallas, Texas, a few days ago.

☞A baby has been born at Wilton Junction, Iowa, with a full set of teeth.

☞Rowing races between aquatic young ladies are a feature at Lake Mahopac.

☞An Ohio schoolma'am has killed 114 snakes on her way to and from school this summer.

☞The Pall Mall Gazette says that the real name of Miss Lydia Thompson, the actress is Mrs. Tilbury.

☞A widower in Manistee, Mich., who has 48 children living, has just married his fourth wife.

☞The ladies at Vienna dress just like the ladies in America, except that they don't wear any bustles, and do wear their own hair.

☞A New York preacher continues to pray for the pardon of young Walworth. He needs praying for, too.

☞A Madison avenue girl recently broke off her engagement just because her lover wanted to borrow $5 of her. Think of it.

☞It costs $5 a night for lodgings in the streets of Chicago, and yet they get more trade than the first-class hotels.

☞In Wheeling, West Virginia, there have been three deaths from cholera since Saturday.

☞A woman at Ypsilanti, Mich., gave birth to triplets recently and on the following day took them to church and had them christened.

☞Bishop Randall of Wyoming Territory, while on a recent Episcopal tour through his diocese, narrowly escaped being scalped by the Sioux.

☞The convention of Italian societies, in session in St. Louis, last week, adopted a petition to Congress asking that body to effectually suppress the traffic in Italian children.

☞J. H. Horton, alias John S. Young, the alleged Philadelphia and Reading stock forger, has been arrested at Providence, R. I., and taken to Lancaster, Pa.

☞Nebraska named a new town Vanderbilt, but not hearing from the commodore they have concluded to take the name of some other wealthy man.

THE COURTS.

POLICE COURT, *Judge Dunnison, pro tem.*—Yesterday, after our report closed, Louis Tyler, charged with being loud and boisterous, was fined $5. Nathaniel Herbert, carrying a carving knife; $20. Miner Taylor, loud and boisterous; $3. Mary Ann Elizabeth Simms, charged with indecent exposure, said she was "intoxicated with spiritual liquor;" $10 and costs. Wm. Burnum, alias Wm. South, was charged with keeping a disorderly house on Water street, Georgetown. Officer Byram testified that his attention had frequently been called to this house; it is a resort for all kinds of bad characters, and is a great nuisance to the neighborhood. George Johns, next door neighbor, testified that there was fighting and quarreling, profanity and indecent language constantly heard there; this had been the case the past six months. Mr. Bailey testified to the same. Mr. Turvey testified that it is the worst kind of house; prostitutes, thieves, and sailors congregate there. Others testified to the same effect, and the proprietor was fined $50 and costs, or 90 days in jail.

TO-DAY

David A. Rollins, profanity; forfeited collateral. Alexander Cook, same. Henry Thomas, loud and boisterous; $5. Thomas Needham, drunk and profane. $6. Joseph Ball, loud and boisterous; $5. John Menerode, same; $5. Rebecca Cook, a vagrant, was sent to the workhouse for ninety days. Dennis McAuliffe, charged with selling liquor without license. A colored man testified that he goes to Dennis' shop and buys his whisky—sometimes five cent drinks, and sometimes ten cent drinks, according to how the money goes. He generally visited Sundays or any day he applies for his drinks; $150; an appeal was taken.. Joseph Ball, charged with creating and maintaining a nuisance by depositing the contents of his privy on a vacant lot on 7th street; case continued. Mary Tucker, assault and battery on Isaac Tucker, her husband; $10 and costs; this was at Routh's, on Water street, Georgetown; $10 and costs. David Malligan, threats to Margaret Lynch; $105 bonds to keep the peace. Eliza Willis, assault and battery on John H. Ware; $10 and costs or thirty days. John Burdette, assault and battery on Harriet, his wife. This was a brutal assault without cause; $10 and costs. Lizzie Swanagin, assault and battery on Anna Preston, colored; in Georgetown. This assault was made with a razor, and the woman's scalp was laid bare; $10 and costs.

THE GREAT FIGHT BETWEEN PETER AND SADONIA MATILDA.

Peter Dorsey, assault on Sadonia Matilda Dorsey, his wife, colored, by knocking her down and choking her. The fuss was about two chickens, and Sadonia Matilda, in defending herself, used a pot of boiling coffee, which she threw at Peter. This Sadonia denied, but Peter, who was in court, said not a word, but slowly rose and pulled out a large carving fork and laid it on the judge's desk, and peeled off his coat, exhibiting a large scald on his arm from a bite inflicted by Sadonia, and some scalds by the coffee. Another witness testified that she saw Peter after the conflict, and he was covered with blood and exhausted from his efforts to defend himself. Peter states that his wife is insane, but the judge fined him $3 and costs.

CHARGE OF RESISTING THE POLICE.

Thomas Needham was charged with resisting and assaulting David Chase, a policeman. Needham is an able-bodied fellow and the officer was a colored man. He testified that in passing Needham's house the latter was setting on his porch with some ladies and that he insulted the officers and used profane and indecent language, and in their attempting to arrest him, he resisted; that he (the officer) followed him into his house and dragged him into the street, when a tussle followed. He placed the alipers on him, and Needham, resisted all the time, striking and kicking him, and that he tore his (the officer's) coat in so resisting. One of the ladies testified that Needham was lying on the sofa when the two officers came in and dragged him off; that he had said nothing to them at all; that they burst right into the room and said: "Come with us," charging that he had insulted them. Needham said he wouldn't go, and they dragged him and tore his coat. Mrs. Murray, a neighbor, testified that no words had been passed to the officers; that Needham was talking to his own folks, when the officers came up and used him very roughly. Another woman testified to the rough usage, and that she begged the officers not to kill him while they were beating him with their clubs. Officer Whiting, one of the officers, was called to testify, and counsel for the defence objected on the ground that the prosecution had closed the case. Counsel for the government held that the testimony was rebutting; overruled, and the witness gave testimony. At this point Needham was arraigned on the charge of resisting Officer J. C. Whiting, another one of the officers. He testified that he and his partner were standing on the corner, when Needham said he could whip any blacks—of whom there were on the police force, and they turned to arrest him, and he resisted