St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

St. Johnsbury, Vt., Friday, July 10, 1874.

The County Convention.

We give elsewhere a quite full report of the Republican County Convention held at this place the 3d inst. And first, we wish to deny for the County Committee any sinister design in calling the convention, as has been charged in one paper. The committee consulted widely in regard to the time, and used the judgment of many in its selection, and as the result proved, chose wisely.

All parts of the County were well represented, and an expression of the people was evidently had. Some local matters brought over one hundred and fifty-seven legal voters from Hardwick; but the will of the majority was reversed in the nominating committee. That is, Hardwick voted in caucus by a majority of nine, for J. H. Drew for sheriff, but the nominating committee brought in Mr. Preston's name.

It will be noticed that the County has partially gone back on its resolution of two years ago, which was in effect that county officers should have but one election. One senator, one assistant judge and the judge of probate are retained from the old ticket, while one senator, the state's attorney and sheriff were dropped with only one election. This policy is all right if the conventions will only be judicious in their selection.

Most of the time in the nominating convention was spent in balloting for senator. The vote between Mr. Morrill of this town and Mr. Rogers of Wheelock was about equal for a time, but the old feeling against "St. Johnsbury getting all the officers," finally nominated Mr. Rogers.

The ticket put in nomination is a very fair one and deserves well of the voters. It might have been better and it might have been much worse. The machine seemed to be run by new hands—or at any rate there was a large sprinkling of a new element in the convention. They may do better with more experience. The ticket is emphatically a temperance ticket, but perhaps no more so than the one of two years ago.

Essex County Convention.

The Essex County Republican convention was held at Guildhall the 2d inst., and the following ticket put in nomination: For Senator, C. E. Benton of Guildhall; Assistant Judges, Wm. R. Silver, of Bloomfield; Harvey H. Lucas, of Canaan; States Attorney, G. W. Hartshorn, of Canaan; Judge of Probate, W. H. Hartshorn, of Guildhall; High Bailiff, J. H. Benton, of Maidstone; County Committee, C. E. Benton, J. W. Hartshorn, D. S. Storrs, Harvey Judevine, A. K. Boyce, and F. L. Brown.

A Needless Accident.—The switchman at the west end of the railroad bridge across the Stony Creek, Conn., while the train was passing over his switch, Monday, shifted the switch before the last car had passed. This threw the last tracks of the rear car off the track. The engineer did not discover this, and the bell-cord was not attached between the cars so he could be signalled. After going a little way with increasing speed, the train reached a curved trestle, when the rear car went over, and the drag was so heavy that all the other cars of the train were pulled from the track. Superintendent Wilcox, of the Shore Line road was killed. One hundred and seven persons were more or less injured.

Republican County Convention.

The Caledonia County Republican Convention was held at the town hall, St. Johnsbury, on Friday, July 3. It organized by the choice of Hon. Bliss N. Davis of Danville, chairman, Isaac W. Sanborn of Lyndon, secretary, and five vice presidents: C. S. Dana, Geo. Ide, Samuel Gray, J. D. Abbott and Dorman Bridgman.

A motion that each town represented choose four delegates to constitute a nominating committee, was opposed by Mr. Bridgman, on the ground that it was manifestly unjust to give a town like Stannard, that cast only 50 republican votes, the same voice in a convention with towns which cast from four to twelve times as many votes. The original motion was favored by Mr. Blake of Hardwick, and Mr. Otis of Sheffield, who thought as this convention was called as a mass convention, we should go along in the usual way and give each town an equal voice—that if each town was to be heard in convention according to republican vote, due notice should be given before the convention met. Motion carried.

A call of the roll of the towns showed that all the county was represented. On motion the chair appointed C. S. Dana, J. D. Abbott, Williams Davis, G. W. Calson, H. C. Ide, a committee on resolutions. The convention then resolved itself into town caucuses for choosing a nominating committee.

Most of the towns elected their committee without difficulty or consuming much time. Not so Hardwick. Two parties came over from that town, it being divided on the sheriff question. The representation being so numerous—over 150—that the court room was designated for their caucus. The friends of Mr. Preston for sheriff, chose their moderator in the person of S. C. Eaton, and a ballot was taken for a nominating committee which resulted in a vote of 83 for the J. H. Drew party, and 74 for the W. H. Preston party.

AFTERNOON.

On reassembling of the convention after dinner, the nominating committee still being out, Hon. Luke P. Poland was invited to address the audience, to which he responded. After remarking upon the pleasure of returning to his native state and again meeting his old friends and neighbors, he spoke somewhat at length upon the work of the last session of Congress and more particularly upon that in which he was especially engaged. He gave a slight insight into the labor performed in the revision of the United States laws. It will be remembered that Judge Poland was chairman of this committee, and it was on him the burden of the work fell; and as he remarked, he believed there was no one in Congress but was perfectly willing he should perform it. The U. S. laws had never been revised since the foundation of the government. There had accumulated seventeen large volumes of these laws. The cost of these volumes was so high few lawyers felt they could afford to own them, and when purchased they were of little use, so many of the laws had been changed or repealed. After long and patient labor this committee got their bill through Congress, and the seventeen volumes of law had been revised and condensed into one.

The speaker also reviewed somewhat at length the action of Congress respecting polygamy in Utah. Some twelve years ago, Senator Morrill while in the lower House, had procured the passage of a bill making polygamy a crime. Notwithstanding this, Brigham Young and his people had gone along paying no regard to the law. He prepared a bill which passed the House without change. It did not come up in the Senate until the last of the session, and in order to get it through, the Senator who had it in charge, consented to the striking out of some provisions which he could wish were in, yet they were not vital to its efficiency. Some of these provisions he should embody in a separate bill and try again, if he lived to return to the next session.

The finances and cheap transportation were also discussed by the speaker. He showed that there was no more difference of views on the financial question among Congressmen than there was among their constituents. New England and the east generally, believed in an honest dollar. They had money to let. The west and south, who were generally borrowers, wanted to pay their debts as cheaply as they could, and so they outvoted them. Judge Poland here paid a deserving tribute to the President in putting his veto upon the wild scheme, and placed his action in so doing alongside with his most brilliant achievements in the military field.

As regards the cheap transportation between the west and the east, Judge Poland said he voted for the bill, as did not most of the New England members, because he believed it was for the interest of the east as well as the west to have these rates fixed. He then went into a somewhat lengthy argument to show the advantage to Vermonters of a cheaper transportation; and also the danger to the country of large vested property in railroad corporations. He quoted from the closing argument which he made in his report on the Credit Mobilier scandal, showing that his present views were expressed then. The conviction he then had respecting the danger of railroad monopolies had been growing upon him since.

As regarded politics, there had been very little political discussion in the last Congress, but whenever they had had occasion to feel of the democratic party, it was found to be the same old coon. The civil rights bill was fought to the death by democrats. They could not get over their prejudice to color. Some were willing to give the blacks equal rights in public conveyances, etc., but not in schools. So they could not pass the bill by a two thirds vote.

During his remarks, the Judge was listened to with good attention, and frequent marks of approbation.

The committee on resolutions reported the same as passed at the late state convention at Burlington, with the additional one making future county conventions delegate instead of mass, as follows:

Resolved, That the Republican Conventions of this county hereafter be delegate conventions, and that the County Committee are hereby instructed to call said conventions upon the basis of the State Republican convention preceding each County convention.

Resolutions passed.

The committee on nominations reported as follows:

Senators—Charles Rogers, Jr., Wheelock; Rev. P. N. Granger, Peacham.

Assistant Judges—John Bacon, 2d, St. Johnsbury; A. O. Harris, Lyndon.

State's Attorney—Walter P. Smith, St. Johnsbury.

Judge of Probate—Asa L. French, St. Johnsbury.

High Sheriff—Wm. H. Preston, Danville.

High Bailiff—Isaac K. Keniston, Sheffield.

County Committee—Geo. Ide, Lyndon; E. L. Hovey, St. Johnsbury; J. R. Darling, Groton.

Convention adjourned without day.

TOWN COMMITTEES.

Barnet—E. T. Ide, Lyman Stanley, G. P. Blair, Peter Buchanan.

Burke—David Trull, Jacob McNeal, C. A. Harris.

Danville—C. H. Davis, Chas. Varney, M. J. Morse.

Groton—H. E. Coffrin, Geo. Taisey, F. M. Page.

Hardwick—J. H. Drew, Henry Blake, L. R. Goodrich.

Kirby—E. W. Church, P. W. Russell, D. S. Young.

Lyndon—I. W. Sanborn, J. A. Smith, W. A. Bemis, H. Ingerson, Jeremy Pearl, Geo. Ide, Oren Chase.

Newark—E. Woodruff, W. C. Cheney, W. S. Allard, S. C. Walter, A. Bishop.

Peacham—C. A. Bunker, I. N. Watts, A. Martin.

Ryegate—A. B. Pringle, M. R. Gray, J. W. Gregg, A. M. Whitelaw.

St. Johnsbury—Emerson Hall, W. A. Chapman, J. W. Lewis.

Sheffield—S. C. Otis, C. B. Simpson, A. M. Miles.

Stannard—A. J. Weed, J. H. Clark, Peter Blair.

Sutton—B. M. R. Willey, L. J. Campbell.

Walden—Chas. Perkins, 2d, A. W. Eddy, Samuel Harrington.

Waterford—A. B. Carpenter, Jona Lawrence, A. B. Goss.

Wheelock—Horace Bradley, Lorenzo Sulloway, S. G. Cree.

Written for the St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

In the Woods.

Mr. Editor: Perhaps a few words from me may be of interest to such of your readers as use their eyes now and then in the woods.

A knowledge of trees and weeds is, first of all, *practical* knowledge. If any New England man will walk through the botanical museum of the "Bussey Institute" a branch of Harvard and observe carefully the specimens of wood, he will learn to prize the treasures which the axe is so relentlessly felling on his hill-sides. If he takes up a specimen of maple from New England and compares it with maple from any other part of the world, he will see that his own is best. The same test will apply to the oaks, pines, spruces, hemlocks, beech, ash, chestnut. Fourteen species of New England forest trees surpass, in every respect, the same species or their representatives, in any other part of the world. Humboldt has described the vast, somber forests of South America, but a stunted forest on a Vermont hill-side is far better for the uses of man, and Vermont timber has found its way into the markets of Valparaiso.

If we pass now from the museum at Cambridge wherein only the living have found a place, to the beds of lignite and clay at Brandon—a botanic museum in which are stored the ruins of an earlier world—we shall see facts which kindle the imagination. Here are petrified nuts and fruits, among others the palm and sapodilla. They carry the mind back to a time when Vermont had a climate as mild, perchance, as that of Florida and groves of palm were waving at the foot of her mountains! Her vegetation, then, was semi-tropical. Now it is semi-arctic and Alpine. Our maples, oaks, willows, chestnuts, tell of revolutions in the face of the earth and far-winding migrations. This is not their fatherland. We trace them by devious wanderings to Oregon, over the Aleutian Islands to Asia, through Asia to Europe, to Switzerland, into a group of strata at the foot of the Alps. *There* is the fatherland of at least three hundred species of our trees and weeds. From Switzerland they spread over Asia and by the Aleutian Islands they came into America. Very long ago they came. Others, like ourselves, are new comers.

A favorite of every lover of floral beauty is the "twin flower," a long creeping stem, rooting and branching through the whole length, covering the ground in large patches and sending up delicate hairy peduncles which bear atop the twins, two bell-shaped, rose-colored, fragrant flowers. We have never seen the twin flower so far south as Boston but around St. Johnsbury we find it in great profusion. Its fatherland is northern Europe. Against the twin-flower, an emigrant, we score the showy Ladies' slipper, a native. It is the queen of the bogs. Among the orchids it is peerless. England can boast only one representative of the genus and that is almost extinct. Among her rarest exotics she prizes the American *Cypripedium Spectabile*, so abundant in a St. Johnsbury bog. I cannot describe it better than by borrowing from my Pedigree of Plants in the Science Monthly. "We have three colors. The petals are snow white, the lip is lustrous white, melting into magenta, which in turn deepens into purple, and the sterile stamen which mimics a petal and dips into the sac formed by the inflated lip is pale yellow. The white is the purple and yellow *blended* together. This color gem points a law. When a flower has three colors, two of which are complimentary the third will be white, representing the blending of the other two."

This richness of color as we have shown is in correlation with the eyes and appetites of insects, but it is a gift from the sun. A week ago we planted a stem in a pot of earth and placed it in a room out of the sunshine. It was in bud then. It is in bloom now and stands before me all lustrous, silvery white.

This strange plant is full of instruction. If the maple and the willow have come to us after long journeying over continents and islands, so the cypripedium, with organs aborted, with others coalesced, with all the parts so strangely twisted, must have reached its abnormal structure traveling through ways, long and devious.

W. P. Gunning.

The Burlington "Home."

LETTER FROM ITS PRESIDENT.

The managers of the "Home for Destitute Children" in the city of Burlington, Vermont are about to present the claims of that worthy charity to its friends throughout the state, for the purpose of procuring means to enlarge the institution by erecting an addition to the present building. The number of children in the "Home" during the past year has averaged fifty, and the building is too small to accommodate such a family, besides it was erected more than twenty years ago for an entirely different purpose and contains none of the modern labor saving conveniences so necessary in such an institution.

The lowest estimate for the needed enlargement and repairs on the old building is $20,000, and the managers must look to those whom "God has prospered" for the amount.

In this connection we wish to correct an erroneous impression which seems to prevail to some extent in relation to the financial condition of the "Home." It is sometimes said that the "Home" is rich enough without begging any more. This is a mistake. The corporation over the present building and ten acres of land which cost $7000, in 1855. It has a Permanent Fund of a little more than $40,000 more, but the entire income is not sufficient to defray the current expenses and the deficiency is made up every year by voluntary contributions.

A legacy of $2500, from the estate of the late Carlos Baxter Esq., is appropriated to the building fund. The T. W. Park of Bennington has subscribed $2500 more and a gentleman of this city $500, more, making a total of $5500,00 with which the ladies have to begin.

Without claiming to be exact the above is a substantially correct statement of the finances of the corporation, and we trust it will serve to disabuse the public of impressions that the institution is not in need of any more money. On the contrary its needs are imperative and its necessities make us urgent that the present season should not pass without some relief in the way of enlarged accommodations.

We know it is an unfortunate time to solicit for a charitable purpose, when the business of the community is so depressed, but there is money enough for Rail Roads and other enterprises and should not our orphans and destitute children be provided for with equal liberality.

We cannot think that the intelligent and benevolent men of Vermont will turn a deaf ear to so vital a question as this.

L. A. Hickok, Pres. "Home."

Vermont Medical Society.

The last meeting of the State Medical Society, at Newport, was of more than usual interest to the profession, and we presume its deliberations will prove of benefit to the public. We condense the official report, merely alluding to some important matters, as our columns are already well filled. A large number of the medical profession were present, many of them accompanied with their wives. They were met also by several members of the Vermont Pharmaceutical association, who were present at the discussions.

On the first day a discussion arose in regard to Roseola, the disease which has recently raged in this section, commonly called "Dutch measles." Dr. Bourne of this place said it was a hybrid of measles and scarlatina, appearing more like a bastard form of the former than the latter, and affording no protection from either. Doctors Browne, Human of Charleston, and Butler of Essex, participated in the discussion; they concurred in their testimony of this singular characteristic, in the vicinity of Essex the disease has been confounded with scarlet fever, under the name therapeutic success has been large.

Dr. Geo. Dunsmore, St. Albans, read a paper on "syphilis" elaborating its history in surgical literature, the differential symptoms between infecting and non-infecting sores, with treatment for each set of symptoms, etc., etc. Dr. Adams stated his belief in the inability to avert constitutional symptoms by overcoming the initial lesion.

Dr. Browne presented notes of a case of infantile convulsions, due to the presence of a bone in the lower portion of the small intestine, by the rigid use of carthatics, a piece of bone of a chicken was discharged, followed by complete absence of convulsions, and recovery of the patient. The patient was a child some three years old, and had become reduced to a skeleton physically, and almost to idiocy mentally, by frequent convulsions. A piece of bone some three-fourths of an inch long was rejected last November, the convulsions ceased at once, and the child is now well. In Dr. Browne's address afterwards on "specialties and their abuses," he bore down quite heavily on specialists, and was particularly severe on the use and abuse of the speculum.

Dr. Putnam of Montpelier for committee reported favorably concerning a state board of health, and after discussion by Dr. A. J. Hyde and others it was referred to committee with instructions to perfect, print and present to the Legislature next fall.

The report of the committee to confer with a similar committee of the Vermont Pharmaceutical Association on the "Pharmacy and poison act," introduced before that association at the annual meeting of 1873, being called for, discussion was had participated in by Dr. L. C. Butler, L. E. Sherman of Ludlow, C. C. Bingham of St. Johnsbury, Day of Bradford, Dr. Gibson of Canada, etc. The apothecaries ask for a law to protect their profession against quacks and ignorant men who may at will take up the matter of compounding medicines. Action was taken to secure such a law passed by the legislature.

Dr. Fassett presented a copy of a law recently passed in New York, to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery, and recommended the appointment of a committee of one for each county in the state to enlist the influence of the physicians and people of their respective counties in favor of the passage of some such law as the one presented. This law is expected to squelch those travelling charlatans who go about robbing the sick and unfortunate.

Dr. J. L. Chandler of St. Albans, read an amusing and humorous paper on some early incidents in his practice, and early reminiscences with such men as Drs. Nathan R. Smith of Baltimore, formerly of Vermont, and Delatield and Mott, of New York. The president invited the older gentlemen of the society to contribute reminiscences of their early life, to which Dr. McNabb, of N. H., 90 years of age, and Dr. Branch of St. Albans responded.

Dr. Adams reported upon the pathological specimen, as follows: A large corporeal growth, evidently of long standing, consisting of cartilage, fibro cartilage, and calcareous degeneration. Associated with this massive growth is a fibroid tumor of one ovary. Dr. Richmond showed a bent, silver catheter, which, after accidental fracture and retention within the bladder, was ingeniously removed upon a wire, introduced through a Lallemand's caustic-holder, by the aid of the index finger per rectum.

Dr. J. H. Smith of Plattsburgh New York read a long and exhaustive paper on cerebro spinal meningitis, giving a resume of various pathological implications with a chart illustrating opisthotonos. Discussion followed this paper and the thanks of the society were voted to Dr. Smith for his valuable contribution.

A pleasant excursion on the steamer Lady of the Lake, Tuesday evening was much enjoyed by all. A large number of interesting papers were presented and the sessions were unusually pleasant and profitable. Resolutions of respect for the memory of Dr. Rockwell, formerly of the Vermont asylum for the insane and Dr. Clark late treasurer of the society were unanimously adopted; also one suspending from membership, Dr. J. C. Harmon, of Westford, for the violation of the laws of the state and medical ethics.

Burlington and Lamoille Railroad.

On the return of the excursion party from this place, a meeting of the directors was called at Burlington, and D. C. Linsley, was elected president, and Nathaniel Parker clerk and treasurer. An executive committee was elected, consisting of President Linsley, Hon. Geo. W. Hendee, L. F. Terril, H. M. Field and J. K. Drury.

On Monday of this week, the committee of 120 met in Burlington, and we condense a report of this meeting which we find in the *Free Press:*

D. C. Linsley, Chairman of the General Committee, reported his estimates of the cost, etc., of the connection between this city and the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad, near Jeffersonville, and gave in detail a history of the late excursion of the committee to St. Johnsbury, closing with a brief report of the meetings at the latter point which resulted in the preliminary organization of the Burlington and Lamoille Railroad.

Mr. Linsley submitted estimates of the cost of the proposed railroad from this city to Cambridge, a distance of 30½ miles, stating that the road could be constructed in a first-class manner, including ballasting, depots, water stations, etc., for $725,000, which would be about $23,000 a mile. The highest grade would not exceed seventy feet, and that would be in Jericho. In case this city should bond, its share would be about $400,000, or three and a half times its grand list.

The resolutions were reported by the committee appointed at the last meeting of the sub-committee, expressive of the sense of the committee in regard to the enterprise and especially of the committee's appreciation of the courtesies extended to them by the managers of the Vermont division of the P. and O. R. R. and the citizens of St. Johnsbury, during their recent excursion. On motion they were unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we as a committee of citizens of Burlington, desire to express to the managers of the Vermont division of the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad, our grateful appreciation of the courtesies extended to the members of this committee, on their recent excursion through the Lamoille Valley and over the line of the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad.

Resolved, That we observed with pleasure, on our recent visit to St. Johnsbury, the results of successful enterprise, as exhibited in the great scale works of the Messrs. Fairbanks and other manufacturing establishments of that place; the elegance and good taste of its private mansions, its Athenæum and public school buildings; and the thrift and comfort of its inhabitants; and that we hope for a speedy opportunity to return the hospitalities extended to us by the citizens of the good town of St. Johnsbury.

Resolved, That we also noted with gratification the natural beauties, the fertility and large capacity for agricultural, manufacturing and mercantile business of the region along the line of the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad, and that we shall hail with joy the day which gives to us a direct and independent railroad connection with that region and road.

Resolved, That the secretary of this committee be instructed to forward copies of these resolutions to Hon. Horace Fairbanks, chairman of the executive committee of the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad, Vermont division, and to the St. Johnsbury *Caledonian*, for publication.

G. G. Benedict,
John A. Arthur,
Wm. Brinsmaid.

Hon. R. S. Taft submitted the following resolution, which, after discussion by Judge Shaw, Judge Noyes, C. J. Alger, and Daniel Roberts, was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That this committee recommend to the city to aid in the construction of the Burlington and Lamoille Railroad to an amount not exceeding one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, by subscribing to the capital stock of said road, the subscription to be paid by the issue of bonds of the city, or by the proceeds thereof.

The speeches made at the meeting were earnest and pertinent, all insisting that the road must be built, and at once.

Not any in Hiram's.—The papers having mentioned as candidate for Congress the name of Hiram Atkins of the *Argus*, the editor thereof thus pleasantly "declines with thanks:"

"To publish the *Argus and Patriot*, and work in the ranks, is all the ambition we have; and probably all the Democracy desire us to have. C. W. Willard is so much more honest than the average Republican Congressmen that we do not want him beaten, and who knows what might happen if we should run against him. And Col. Joyce was so heartily against Grant until *obtained*, to make speeches in favor of his re-election, that to be pitted against him would seem almost like running against a Democrat."

That "Press-gag" Bill.

The Poland bill, conferring jurisdiction upon the Criminal Court of the District of Columbia, which was passed just before the close of the session, has been construed as an infringement upon the right of the press. There was no such intention upon the part of the authors of the measure. The idea was to allow all cases of libel to be tried before a jury, and not before a mere police magistrate. Competent lawyers, who have examined the law, say it does not affect the liberties of the press, but, on the contrary, protects them. This was Judge Poland's understanding of the bill, and it was so explained to the President by the Attorney-General before it was approved.—*Boston Globe.*

Henry M. Parkhurst publishes in the Tribune, his calculations with regard to the new comet, by which he brings it about the 20th of July, as near the earth as Venus, and he thinks that the eastern edge of his tail will envelop the earth about July 22.

Editorial in Boston Journal, of July 2.

The Revised and Consolidated Statutes of the United States.

We desire to call attention to the completion of this important work, the most important probably of any of the numerous Acts of Congress for many years. It combines, in a single statute, all the existing statutes of the nation in force on the first day of December, A. D. 1873. It embraces the Acts of Congress for eighty-five years, which before were comprised in seventeen large volumes, now reduced to one, not much exceeding a thousand pages, carefully revised and systematically arranged so that the existing law, upon any subject, may be seen in the shortest possible time, arranged in the most lucid and satisfactory manner. Before, the law upon any subject consisted of successive enactments, made from time to time, through a period of nearly a century, and scattered through so many volumes that it becomes next to impossible to find the entire legislation upon any topic, short of the search of days or weeks even, and then resulting in no absolute certainty, since the successive enactments were found under heads bearing no connection or analogy to the main subject. This mode of attaching general legislation to every kind of log rolling scheme, not excepting the appropriation bills, while it has become a most flagrant scandal to the national legislation, has also rendered it next to impossible to know what the national statutes upon almost any subject were, short of reading the whole seventeen volumes in which they were contained, from beginning to end. In this almost chaotic state of for legislation of Congress, Judge Poland of Vermont while a member of the Senate, nearly eight years since, conceived the idea of effecting the present result of revision and consolidation.

The first movement in this discouraging undertaking resulted in the passage of an act under which the first Commission of Revision was appointed, with a distinguished jurist at its head, but which really resulted in almost nothing toward the completion of the work. When this Commission threw up the undertaking it left the whole matter in a state of more hopeless confusion uncertainty and distrust than before anything was attempted. One of less power of will, or determination of action, than Judge Poland would have despaired of ever reviving it. But he did not abandon it. Being then in the House of Representatives, he applied his best energies and talents to its resuscitation, and secured the appointment of a new Commission of Revision, of more leisure and consequently of more working capacity. Mr. Poland, being Chairman of the Committee in the House having charge of the entire subject, has labored with the most indefatigable industry and perseverance through successive years, in consonance with the final Commission, to bring about the present most satisfactory result. The entire responsibility of the work has devolved upon the Committee, and largely upon its Chairman, Judge Poland, and it is but justice to him to declare that he met it at every point in the most satisfactory manner, laboring night and day, at all hours, with a degree of patience and energy never surpassed, and with a degree of skill and judgment scarcely ever equaled in any great undertaking, for the benefit of the nation and especially the administration of justice. We speak but the common sentiment of the profession in saying that the work is one of unsurpassed merit, done in the most careful, faithful and satisfactory manner.

We shall soon have the completed work, with its index and preliminary and marginal notes, which will save the courts and the bar, as well as business men, an amount of labor and perplexity absolutely incalculable, and for which we are largely, if not exclusively, in its primary movement and speedy accomplishment, indebted to Judge Poland. It he had done nothing else during his long Congressional services he would deserve perpetual and grateful remembrance for this alone.

Personal Items.

The following pleasant notice of one of our townsmen and a St. Johnsbury industry, we find in the last Montpelier *Freeman:*

Articles tried on Fairbanks' balances are never found wanting, so far as accuracy in weight is concerned. These scales are reliable and durable. And best of all, they maintain perfect accuracy after long continued use and under severe tests. The Hay Scales in this village, over which W. C. Lewis, Esq., has so admirably presided for the past fourteen years, are found to weigh as correctly as they did when put in over fourteen years ago. This is a sufficient compliment alike to the scales and to Mr. Lewis' care. Some repairs about the wood work or frame enclosing the scales being deemed advisable, the company resolved to overhaul and put every thing in the best possible condition. For this purpose they sent over an expert in scale-making and testing. This veteran, Mr. Francis Bingham, was seventy-six years of age, and had worked for the Fairbanks' fifty-four years. With this experience of years of service and skill, he combined the enthusiasm of youth and the scales were faithfully tested and examined. Although he discovered no particular need of repairs, yet with that thoroughness which always characterizes a Fairbanks' employee, he at once substituted new pivots, bearings, beam, &c. In fact he made the old better than the new. They were tested after everything was put in shape, and found to be just right every way.

Judge-Advocate-General S. M. Southard, of Vergennes, celebrated the 11th anniversary of the loss of his leg, from a rebel 12-pounder at Gettysburgh, July 3d, by taking a partner for the rest of life, who, we trust, will be better than "Palmer's patent" for helping him along, and will herself find that by so much as a man gives to his country he adds to his character. The lady is a niece of President Buckham, of the University of Vermont.—*St. Albans Messenger.*

We are pained to hear of the death at Brooklyn, on Friday, of consumption, of Miss Laura Saxe, the beautiful and only daughter of John G. Saxe. She was but seventeen years of age.

It is with sadness that we record the suicide of Hunt W. Burrows, of Vernon, formerly Adjutant of the Eleventh Vermont Regiment. He was the son of Jarvis F. Burrows, of Vernon, was a graduate of Norwich University, early enlisted in the service during the war, and bore himself with credit. Since his return home from the South he has been the railroad station agent at Vernon. On Sunday morning last he drowned himself in the Connecticut river. He had been insane for some months, during which he had twice jumped into the North river at New York. He leaves a wife and two children.—*Free Press.*

Mr. King's mammoth balloon, "Buffalo," made a very successful ascent from Buffalo, N. Y., on Saturday, and after a night voyage above the clouds descended safely in Salem, N. J., Sunday morning.

A Lawyer Shot at Concord.

Anson S. Marshall, a lawyer of Concord, N. H., with his wife and child, drove out to Penacook Lake the 4th, for a picnic. Spreading a blanket upon the ground, they opened their basket for dinner. Just at this moment his wife heard the singing of bullets over their heads and remarked that it was dangerous to remain there. Mr. Marshall could see no one firing, but shouted to them to be careful. He then rose to his feet, and at that instant a bullet struck him in the abdomen, passing into his body. He exclaimed "I am shot and fatally wounded," and sank down. His wife called for assistance, when two men from a party near by promptly responded, and taking him to his carriage drove him to a house. A messenger was dispatched at once to the city for physicians, and the surgeons were unanimous in the opinion that he had received fatal injuries and could live but a few hours. While waiting for medical aid he was conscious, although suffering intensely. He was very calm, talking at intervals with those around him, and still impressed with the idea that he could live but a few hours bade his wife and son good bye, telling little Southard, his only child, to be a good boy and to care for his mother. The sufferer lingered until ten minutes past one and then passed away.

It seems that the City Guards, a newly formed military company of Concord went to Lake Penacook on Saturday morning for target shooting. They went into a pasture bordering the Lake. Their arms were rifles carrying minnie balls. Seven shots were fired, two of them by Capt. Putney himself, and the target shows the marks of seven bullets. Mr. Marshall was about 150 feet out of range as the target now stands, and the officers say it has not been removed from its original position, and the theory of the police is that the fatal bullet after passing through the target struck an iron hinge and diverted from its course. The placing of the target where there was an exposed area in its rear is pronounced an act of gross, if not criminal, carelessness.

A Tornado at Washington.

Washington city was visited by a terrific tornado the night of the 4th. The tornado spent most of its force in the northwestern portion of the city, near the State Department. Nearly one hundred houses were completely unroofed in that locality alone. Fourteen houses in one block lost their roofs. The house of Senator Morrill of Vermont was much disfigured, having a ton of bricks wrenched from its side, and having been apparently twisted from its foundations by the giant grip of the whirlwind. The trees in all the Government reservations are very seriously damaged, especially in the Capitol grounds. Many of them were torn from the earth. Many of the fine old maples in the President's grounds are destroyed. Horses were thrown to the ground; a street car was lifted ten feet from its track, and all without a second of warning. The loss is estimated at least one million dollars.

IN PENNSYLVANIA.

A dispatch from Harrisburg says: A terrible hurricane passed over the country in the vicinity of Lewistown, this afternoon. The railroad bridge spanning the Juniata river was blown down entire. Several boys had taken refuge on the bridge; two were killed, also an old man and five others injured. A train of twenty three empty freight cars was blown off the track a few miles west of Lewistown.

A later dispatch says: The storm at Lewistown yesterday was more of the nature of a tornado. The roofs of the Coleman House in town and the lower hotel at the depot were blown off and several other houses damaged. The steeples of the Lutheran and Presbyterian churches were blown down. Total killed, as far as heard from, seven.

Misery in Washington.

A Washington special of July 4, referring to the wholesale discharge of government employees, gives the following displeasing picture: Yesterday and to-day have been truly *dies ærasti* in the different departments. In the Treasury Department about 900 employees have been discharged. In the Printing Bureau alone 325 persons, chiefly females, were notified of their fate. It is said that fourteen ladies fainted. Two or three of them are said to be totally deranged to-day, and will probably have to be taken to the asylum. At the Interior Department, to-day, a clerk named Brian, in the Patent Office, upon receiving his notice of dismissal, went stark mad, and betook himself to the model room, where he procured a bayonet and attached it to a pole. He then stripped himself to his undergarments and made a general raid on the whole department. He soon cleared two or three rooms, and was about making a raid on another room full of female clerks, when a messenger standing at the door knocked him down with a club. The lunatic recovered, he was secured, and afterward carted off to Police Headquarters. The physicians, who have been in attendance on him since, state that it was only a temporary aberration of the mind, and that with quiet and change of air the poor man will recover. There are many other cases which, while not attracting so much attention on account of the undemonstrativeness of the victims, are nevertheless equally pitiable. Dozens of families in this city to-night are in unspeakable misery because they know not whence their means of support will come in the future.

A Fraud.

A common impression prevails among the people that a person having committed an assault against another, can immediately go before a justice of the peace—plead guilty, and be assessed in a normal fine, pay it, and no further prosecution can be commenced for the offence. Judge Ross of the supreme court has exploded this notion, in the decision of a case in the Caledonia county court. One Degnese waylaid a neighbor on the road, and gave him a severe pounding. The same night the assailant went to one of the justices of the peace to get them to fine him, but they declined. The next morning he procured a grand juror's complaint, and was fined with costs. He was indicted for the assault, in the county court, and, on trial, the respondent's counsel filed a plea in bar, alleging a former conviction. The state replied that the former conviction was a fraud—and so the court held, and again fined the respondent $20 and costs. We are glad to know that this decision has been made for the information of the public, as very many intelligent people have entertained erroneous views upon the subject, that have led them often times to give bad advice, which frequently results in malicious assaults, under the impression that they had only to make a complaint of themselves, be fined, and avoid further prosecution. This decision is in the interests of good order, and for the welfare of the community. Many other false views of the easy methods of avoiding the penalties of the law, would be banished, were these points more frequently discussed in the public charges of our judges to jurors.—*Rutland Globe.*

A Lady Bigamist.

In his last Friday evening talk to congregation, Mr. Beecher made personal remarks in which he referred to his early ministry and his success in life since. It was his first pastorate, having previous to his ordination been a teacher, and he said that he was so strongly impressed with the idea that he might never meet them again. He made no allusion to the Tilton charges. His sermon was something in the vein of

New York Fire Works.—At the pyrotechnic display on Monday evening in Washington Park, New York, had almost to stop, a spark from a rocket fell on a pile of fire works—exploded on the ground ready to be set off of the fire works caught in the explosion ensued. All the fire on the ground went off, and from the roman candles, which went among the crowd, they numbered at least 5000. A terrible terror ensued. The crowd seized with a panic and broke everything in their way. Fortunately only four persons seriously injured.

New Postmaster.—Vacancy in the cabinet caused by resignation of Postmaster General Jewell and the new appointee, Mr., has been filled by the appointment of Hon. Marshall Jewell to the office of Minister to Russia. The appointment was tendered him by telegraph and he signified his acceptance of it in the same manner.

Discussing the prospects of various Presidential candidates the Tribune thinks that since the Greeley disposed of Morton, Sprague has no dangerous rival in the republican party, unless Grant may be considered as such a rival. The success, the Tribune says, depends largely upon the Republican party. It has no strength save as it deserves it.

The Cincinnati Commercial doubts about the probability of Grant's nomination. It says: "Gen. Grant will not be nominated, because the politicians understand that he would not be re-elected. No party is strong enough to carry him through the storm of opposition to a third term. Influential newspapers in the Republican party would revolt, as they have shown themselves ready to do, at the mere suggestion of a third term.

Harper's Weekly says: "It is well understood before hand that there would be a very decisive uprising of the people against any serious suggestion of a third term."

Fire crackers caused a serious fire at Pontiac, Ill., on Saturday.

The crops in many sections are seriously injured by a long drought.

John Keyno, a Boston laborer drowned himself on Wednesday by throwing himself into water.

Four persons were drowned in Lake Erie, off Buffalo, on Saturday, by the upsetting of a boat.

Though the West is the grasshopper section of the country, it appears that the grasshopper is a humbug.

A post-office has been established on the top of Mount Washington, John W. Dodge postmaster.

William C. Storrs, who was found guilty of murder in the second degree for killing two old women at Halifax, Mass., last February.

Fools are not all dead yet. Two hundred dupes of Mormonism have arrived at New York, on Monday, from Europe, on their way to Salt Lake.

Minnesota is suffering greatly from the grasshopper plague. The governor calls on those in the State who are not afflicted by this visitation to be less fortunate.

At Providence Saturday night a fire was discovered in a grocery house, and severely beat out. The occupants, besides frightening about to death.

The school vacations have begun, and already mothers begin to see the folly of an arrangement of school terms that compels them to take care of their own children during Summer.

Six men driving logs on the Connecticut river near White River Junction, Friday, were capsized by their boat, and two of them drowned. The bodies have not been recovered.

The Lamoille county republicans have nominated C. S. Fage of Hyde Park for senator, L. S. Thompson for state's attorney, E. P. Madison of Johnsbury, judge of probate, Amos Waterville, sheriff, J. T. Smith of Eden, high sheriff.

An old lady in a town of Worcester county lately refused to buy a load of wood from a man during lightning, through fear that the "third" might remain in the house and cause disaster to her husband.

A shocking casualty occurred at Milford, N. H., Thursday morning. Daniels, while driving across the railroad track, was overtaken by a train, his wife instantly killed, and a little child of T. L. Livermore, of Boston, fatally injured.

Last week a vicious bull belonging to George Stevens of Williamstown, Vt., seized the animal by the horns, instead of controlling it, jumped over the fence, getting some of his ribs broken. His wife, who saw the affair, was so frightened that she was thrown into premature travail, and gave birth to triplets.

Barnum's big sea lion, weighing 1000 pounds, died, Thursday, while being taken in a caravan from the Bridgeport depot to central park. It was of the kind known as the lion-fish, and nothing would eat except a habit of eelpong and herring. It was a beautiful creature, valued at $4000, and will be stuffed and presented to the Smithsonian institution.

A little son of Charles L. Brown, residing in Consumnegan, L. I., fell into his father into the bay in the morning, but after remaining there for some time he became tired and went down in the tall grass. The boy was driving a mower came up a few minutes later, and being unable to find the boy—in time, too, was mowing his head from the body.

Fisher M. Clark and Helen L. Fox, both of New York, were married in the old