ONE OF THE MALCONTENTS

DAVID A. STRAKER'S LITTLE SCHEME.

Why He Opposes the Board of School Trustees—His Piteous Appeal to the President of the Board—How He Wanted to Pay for His House—David as a Man and a Brother—An Appendix to the Proceedings of the Union League Hall Meeting—A Very Interesting Episode.

In yesterday morning's REPUBLICAN there was given an exceedingly full and complete report of the proceedings of the band of malcontents in this city who have started out to reform the management of the colored schools, and to oust the present board of trustees. Our readers will remember that Mr. David A. Straker was the great gun of the occasion. Straker is a good-looking colored man, who was born in Barbadoes, and who, having drifted to Washington, feels that he is specially called upon to improve on the existing order of affairs, and lead "his race," as he says, up to the higher planes of influence and power. Of course, in all this Straker is entirely unselfish.

His patriotic bosom is fairly bursting with indignation at the slights put upon himself and those of his race, and he is anxious to blot them out as speedily as possible. At Union League hall Tuesday evening he took high ground in favor of "mixed schools," and declared that "the distinction between citizen and citizen on account of color is anti-Republican and of feudal origin." Perhaps it is, but demagogues like him, who are merely grinding their little axes in attacking better men than themselves, will never blot it out. Straker was particularly severe upon Councilman Brooks and Trustee Johnson. The following letters will show exactly the milk in Mr. Straker's cocoa nut. Last September he came to the conclusion that he would like to secure an appointment for his wife as school teacher. He compelled her to make an application, and sent to the board the annexed letter:

MR. STRAKER GIVES THE WEIGHT OF HIS NAME AND INFLUENCE.

SIXTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE, POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, FIRST FLOOR, ROOM NO. —, WASHINGTON, D. C., September 14, 1872.

Messrs. John Gray, R. Johnson and Wm. Wormley, Board of Trustees of District of Columbia Schools:

GENTLEMEN: Being informed that Mrs. A. M. Straker, candidate for school teachership at your late examination of teachers, attained the average of 69 only, which although not the average required, is far above what many others attained, who through your clemency have received appointments at your hands as assistant teachers, and believing that you exercise no discrimination, but are sure to do justice, I venture to ask your clemency in appointing Mrs. Straker to an assistant teachership at your earliest convenience at some near point.

Respectfully yours, D. A. STRAKER.

Straker thought it would be a good thing to have a friend in the board of trustees, and to that end used every effort to win over Henry Johnson to his side. The following letter explains itself:

HOW STRAKER WANTED TO PAY FOR HIS HOUSE.

SIXTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE, POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 6, 1872.

Henry D. Johnson, esq.:

DEAR SIR: I called at the Treasury Department three days of last week, but failed to see you at any time. I am prompted to write you in the belief that, in our time ecclesiastically, and as young men having similar aspirations towards the progress of ourselves in the solution of the question of our inferiority as a race, you will sympathize in those hopes, which I do believe, by assisting me by your influence and vote in obtaining for my wife a situation as a teacher in one of the public schools of which you are trustee. I have already written to your colleague Brooks officially, asking its clemency in this behalf.

"Some may say I have employment capable of sustaining me. True, but I have a debt accruing from the purchase of a house to live in, and as soon as I can liquidate this I shall devote myself to my practice as a lawyer. If you will, therefore, give me your influence I shall regard it as an act of great kindness, as likewise my wife.

I have never sought your influence before, believing it unnecessary, as the opposite I had no reason to believe.

You have now my request to take the matter as your ward, trusting that you will do me what favor you can. My wife's health is poor, and I should be glad if she could be appointed at some near point.

Respectfully yours, D. A. STRAKER.

For the reasons stated in one of the preceding letters, Mrs. Straker failed to secure the appointment, but the illustrious Straker, who had his house to pay for, and whose position in the Sixth Auditor's office was not sufficient to gratify his ambition, was still persistent. Notwithstanding that, as he himself says, "his wife's health was poor," he was still anxious to put her to the laborious work of teaching school, in order that he might obtain a little more money, and advance his own interests and projects. His next letter was as follows:

AN URGENT SOLICITATION.

SIXTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C., October 2, 1872.

H. D. Johnson, esq.:

DEAR FRIEND: Through your last report I perceive that the time is nearing when you will open new schools. Permit me, then, to again solicit your influence in securing my wife an appointment to a school at the first meeting in which the subject will be brought up. You will bestow on me great kindness and I shall be grateful if ever the chances of fortune should permit. My wife's health is poor, and as near as she could be located would be desirable. I fail to see any reason why, in all this's fair and just, she should not receive the next appointment, yet I ask your kind assistance to its consummation. Fraternally yours, D. A. STRAKER.

STRAKER STRIKES OUT FOR HIMSELF.

Straker at last gave up all hope of being able to obtain a position for his wife, solely because of the reasons stated by himself in this correspondence. His next move was to obtain for himself, if possible, an appointment as "instructor" in the preparatory high school. To aid his efforts in that direction he wrote a long communication to one of the city newspapers, which was duly printed, and upon which he based his application. Again he appealed to the man whom he so bitterly denounced Tuesday evening, soliciting his assistance in the following letter:

A FRATERNAL APPEAL.

OCTOBER 19, 1872.

Henry Johnson:

DEAR FRIEND: Accompanying this you will find my letter to the board of trustees. I have no doubt it will receive your public approval, and in so doing I shall do my best to reflect on those who entrust me with the task, and on you "fraternally." I shall try to "square my actions" as one brother should towards another. You doubtless know me now.

Fraternally yours, D. A. STRAKER.

This, in brief, is a portion of the record of this man Straker, so far as Henry Johnson and the board of trustees of the colored schools is concerned. As a postscript to his Tuesday night's harangue, it is decidedly refreshing. The baiter of the gang of malcontents will be found to have similar grievances. When he goes to wait upon the President and the Governor, let him by all means take the above letters along with him.

A CASE OF EJECTMENT.

Justice Keese Compelled to Vacate His Office.

Yesterday morning, about 10 o'clock, considerable excitement was occasioned at the corner of Sixth street and Louisiana avenue, by Constable Henry Lacey ejecting Justice E. L. Keese from the office that he occupied at that corner. It appears that some time since a bookseller named August Gonthele rented the premises, and then sublet the rear rooms to Mr. Keese. He moved out and left Keese in full possession, who received notice from the owner to leave, but to which no attention was given. On Tuesday last Justice Mills issued a writ of restitution, and it was placed in the hands of Constable Henry Lacey to serve. This officer informed the squire that he must vacate the premises by 7 o'clock on Tuesday morning or other measures would be resorted to. The notice was unheeded, and yesterday morning the constable appeared at the office, and on the refusal of Justice Keese to vacate, his furniture and desks were promptly removed to the sidewalk, and as the squire had secured a room in the adjoining house they were promptly transferred to this place.

Before the work of removal was completed Justice Keese issued a warrant and placed it in the hands of Officer Burns to serve, charging Lacey with using threats of personal violence towards a lady. The constable was taken before Judge Snell, where a *nolle prosequi* was entered, and he was immediately dismissed. As Keese took the gas fixtures and some other articles which it is thought legally belonged there, it is understood that a warrant will be issued against him for trespass. The case excited considerable interest among lawyers especially, many of whom witnessed the whole affair.

SPORTING MATTERS.

Post-Selling for the Race To-Day.

The race to come off this afternoon between John Langley's bay horse and John Taity's brown mare has caused much talk and excitement, not only among the sporting fraternity, but with many of our citizens who seldom take interest in matters of this kind. As previously announced would be the case, pools on the race were sold at the National hotel last evening. A large crowd was present, and the favorites of both horses were strong in testifying to the confidence they entertained for the respective horses. The sale opened with the brown mare having the odds, but the friends of Prince came to the rescue at the sixth pool, and from that time to the close of the selling "Prince" held the call, closing the last pool with the odds of two to one in his favor. Knox's beach wagon will leave the hotel today at 3 o'clock for the track to convey all wishing to witness the trot. Fare for the round trip, $1. Should the weather prove favorable a large crowd will be in attendance, and the finest race witnessed that has taken place here this season.

Hotel Arrivals.

Dr. A. B. Lesley and wife, Delaware; J. P. Tucker, Boston; Judge A. B. Corwine, New York; Judge John F. Lay, Virginia, and F. Chanal, California, are at the Ebbitt House.

Abram Wakeman, B. L. McKenzie, New York; General Jacob Ammen, Maryland; S. P. Bolline, Philadelphia; F. Farber, New York; Samuel S. Tiago, Philadelphia, and B. B. Pritchard, Baltimore, are at the Kirkwood.

Augustus Woods, New Hampshire; C. W. Bond, Richmond; G. C. Burr, Norfolk, and Oliver Madison, Indianapolis, are at the Imperial.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

Governor Cooke has appointed W. L. Mills commissioner of deeds for the District of Columbia in the state of Illinois.

The following was the range of the thermometer at Hooper's yesterday: 8 a. m., 81; 10 a. m., 84; 12 m., 86; 1 p. m., 87; 4 p. m., 88; 6 p. m., 82; 8 p. m., 78.

Mr. Geo. P. Sykes is lying dangerously ill at his father's residence, the West End hotel, Long Branch, and but faint hopes of his recovery are entertained by his friends.

Mr. Harry King, of this city, who some two months ago went West in search of health, returned yesterday, weighing twenty pounds more and looking like a summer rose. He went peg out just yet.

The game yesterday afternoon on the Olympic grounds was not of much interest, the Creighton club having it all their own way, the Cooke nine showing a sad lack of practice. The score at the close stood—Creighton, 26; Cooke, 16.

Yesterday morning while the steamer Keyport was proceeding to Aquia Creek she broke her shaft when ten miles below Alexandria. The steamer Lady of the Lake towed her to Alexandria, where the passengers disembarked.

Two of the high-waymen who have been committing robberies in the county were arrested yesterday, and the indications are that the remainder, who are well known, will be caged in a few days. The two captured yesterday have been identified.

Some excitement was caused yesterday morning by the finding of two human skulls on the roof of the restaurant of Mr. Charles Godfrey, on E street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth, by which time they were passed there has not yet been discovered, and it is supposed to have been a joke on the proprietor.

At the regular meeting of Columbia Lodge, No. 1, Independent Order of Mechanics, Deputy Grand Architect H. G. Wagner installed the following officers for the ensuing term: W. M., John Thomas; J. M., W. Wallach Grant; recording secretary, J. C. Wilson; financial secretary, Geo. S. Jones; treasurer, J. P. Jacobs; chaplain, Chas. N. Weiss; conductor, Fred. W. Spross.

Neddy Conner, a little Irish emigrant only nine years of age, arrived yesterday morning from New York, and was taken to the office of D. A. Brosnan, on G street, who had him cared for by the Sisters of the Holy Cross on H street, until his parents can be found. The little fellow says his father's name is John Conner, and that he lives in Baltimore. He brought with him the emigrant ticket from New York to Baltimore. Master Neddy hails from Holstaff, near Headford, county Kerry.

MILITARY.

Master of the Officers of the First Regiment N. G.

Adjutant General Amos Webster has, through General Orders No. 13, issued yesterday from headquarters, recognized the field and staff officers elected on the 19th ultimo by the captains and lieutenants of the 1st regiment National Guard of the District of Columbia. They are as follows: Colonel, S. S. Smoot; lieutenant colonel, Robert I. Flemming; senior major, William Dickson; junior major, J. T. K. Plant; surgeon, J. F. Hartigan; assistant surgeon, A. C. Miller; adjutant, W. H. Beall; quartermaster, James McNabb, Jr. He directs that they and such company officers of that organization as have not been mustered in report at his office for the purpose and at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Seventeenth street, to-morrow (Friday) evening, at 8 o'clock, to take the oath prescribed by the militia law of the District of Columbia.

The President's Mounted Guard have had prepared a handsome set of resolutions to be forwarded to the Duquesne Grays, of Pittsburg, Pa., thanking the corps for the stand of colors presented to the Guard some months since.

The various companies of the 1st regiment are busily engaged in making preparations for excursions, target-shooting, &c., this summer to afford amusement to the members thereof. The first trip announced is that to be given by company D to Marshall Hall next Monday, when a target-shooting match will take place. On Thursday, July 24, company A will give their third annual excursion to Marshall hall, down the Potomac on the steamer Keyport. The Marine band will furnish concert and dancing music.

Company F, Captain R. Hanneman, will give a grand picnic and target prize shooting at Leesford's picnic grounds, on Monday, July 21. The honorary members of the company have contributed $100 towards purchasing prizes. It is requested that the members of other companies attending the picnic appear in full uniform. The committee to decide upon the shooting will be selected from the different companies of the 1st regiment. Dancing, under Professor L. H. Trembly, and good music, will be a portion of the attractions of the day. The young company is striving to become one of the best organizations in the 1st regiment, and last night at the meeting of the company several good recruits were enlisted. In addition to other attractions, there will be given an exhibition drill. Let our military boys assist them.

CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL.

Meeting of Directors at Annapolis.—Report of President German.

The president and directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company met at Annapolis on Tuesday; all the members, except Col. J. G. Herret, present. The report of the president was submitted to the board, and his recommendations were concurred in. The report is as follows:

OFFICE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL COMPANY, ANNAPOLIS, July 8, 1873.

To the Board of Directors:

GENTLEMEN: I have great satisfaction in reporting to you that the tonnage and revenue of the company for the past month is largely in excess of any corresponding period, viz: Revenue accrued from tolls June, 1873, was $67,014.26; for rents and interest on deposits, $1,225.79, making the total accrued revenue for the month, $68,240.05; while the expenses for operating and maintaining the canal, including the repairs on dams No. 1 and 2, Georgetown and Seneca, was $19,066.39, making the net revenue for the month $49,239.66.

The following comparative statement will show the increase in the coal tonnage and receipts from tolls as compared with corresponding period of 1871 and 1872: June, 1871, 107,911 tons, $63,025.12; June, 1872, 104,296 tons, $68,—[illegible]; June, 1873, 111,914 tons, $67,014.26. From which it will be seen that the increased coal tonnage as compared with 1871 was 4,003 tons, and as compared with 1872 was 7,718 tons, while the increase in revenue from tolls as compared with 1871 was $3,989.14, and 1872 was $10,—[illegible].

As gratifying as this large increase in the trade and revenue of the canal for the past month is, we have every reason to expect equally gratifying results during the remainder of the season, as your canal is in an improved condition, well supplied with extra lock-gates and other materials to repair any ordinary accident, while the prism or water way is greatly improved, as an evidence of which boats have passed from Cumberland to Georgetown during the past month, laden with 121 tons of freight, the average tonnage of all boats engaged in the canal trade exceeding 113 tons.

Not only is the canal in good condition, but the question of freight, which in the early part of the past month it was thought would interrupt the trade, has been adjusted, all of the companies except one paying the same as heretofore, viz: $1.35 to Georgetown, while the number of boats registered and engaged in the trade will accommodate during a boating season one and a half million tons.

The continued demand for coal and other articles transported over your work must continue to increase the trade and revenue.

Not only is the present and prospective trade and revenue of the canal flattering, but the receipts from tolls and rents from the 1st day of January last to the 30th of June, is in excess of that of the corresponding period of the past year, notwithstanding all the delays and interruptions to the business of the canal since the opening of navigation. Which, after appropriating $26,883 in May last to compute account, and payment of current expenses, leaves a balance in the various depositories to the credit of the company on its general account of $134,—[illegible], which will enable you to appropriate $101,970 to pay two coupons on the preferred construction bonds, and leave a sufficient balance in the treasury to meet current expenses, which the very large balance on hand on coupon account is sufficient for any contingency.

I therefore respectfully recommend that notice be given that the coupons due July, 1857, and January, 1858, on preferred construction bonds, will be paid upon presentation at the banking house of Alexander Brown & Sons, Baltimore, on and after the 15th instant.

Respectfully submitted, A. P. GORMAN, President Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company.

TAXATION.

The Rates Under the New Bill.

Collector Slater has not yet begun to receive taxes for the year commencing July 1, as the bill passed at the recent session of the Legislature did not contain the emergency clause and will not go into effect until the 26th inst. The tax books are well advanced, and will be placed in the collector's hands on the 26th date. The rates under the new bill are as follows:

Washington city—$2 on each $100, divided as follows: General fund, 45 cents; gas, 15; police, 12; salaries public schools, (including colored,) 90; erection school buildings, (do.,) 13; on account of District bonds, 24; District water bonds, 4; corporation bonds, 24; District bonds sinking fund, 25.

Georgetown—$2 per $100, as follows: General fund, 40 cents; gas, 11; police, 17; schools, 25; school buildings, 15; District of Columbia bonds, 32; District of Columbia water do., 4; Georgetown do., 25; District sinking fund, 25.

County—$1.85 per $100: General fund, 31; police, 12; schools, 50; District bonds, 40; District sinking fund, 25.

Col. Brashall, the deputy collector, is engaged at present in preparing the new certificates for taxes due, and by the first of next week some will be issued. These certificates are printed on bond paper, and are signed by the Governor, collector and superintendent of assessments, each bearing the seal of the District. They will bear the date of July 1, 1873, and bear interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and holders under the law have the right, at the expiration of a year, to demand the payment of the amount, with interest, or the sale of the property on which it is a lien. Arrangements have already been made for the negotiation of these certificates on satisfactory terms, but preference will be given to home parties, and those who wish to invest should send their orders to Mr. G. E. Baker, the comptroller of the District.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Orders of the Board of Public Works.

The Board of Public Works issued the following orders yesterday: The grading of alley in square No. 116, between M and N and Nineteenth and Twentieth streets; also, the grading of M street, from Eighteenth to Twenty-first. The paving of I street, from Tenth to Eleventh street northwest, with asphalt; the grading of O, from Fifteenth to Sixteenth street; and the grading, resetting curb, relaying footwalks and narrow roadway of P street, from Eleventh to Fourteenth northwest. The superintendent of streets has been directed to close the six-feet alley in square 716, west side of Vermont avenue, between K and L streets.

Slander Suit.

Charles McCartney yesterday entered suit against P. Sullivan in the Circuit Court, claiming $1,000, for slander. The slander is the statement "He stole forty dollars," alleged to have been made by the defendant of and concerning the plaintiff.

A HEARTLESS MOTHER.

IS IT A CASE OF BABY FARMING?

A White Child Found by the Board of Health in a Starving Condition—The Story of Its Colored Nurse and of Its White Mother's Sister—A Splendid Case for the Police.

One of the most cruel cases of neglect by a father and mother of a child that has ever been chronicled in this city came to light yesterday, through a citizen, who at once made known the fact to the Board of Health by the following letter:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 7, 1873.

Dr. W. D. Stewart:

SIR: You will please call at the alley, between K and L, Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets northwest, and you will find an unknown white child with a colored man and woman. The child is very badly treated, and is shamefully neglected every day. It appears that the mother of the child, whoever she is, pays these people a pretty good sum per month to take care of the child, but they use the money for other purposes, and the child is in a miserable condition. It will be an act of humanity to see after the poor little sufferer.

Respectfully, A CITIZEN.

The Board of Health are not in the habit of receiving anonymous letters, but the above seemed to be so straight a story that upon the receipt of the same Dr. Stewart, in company with Dr. Keene (health officer) and a reporter for the REPUBLICAN, proceeded to the scene in the above alley and soon were at

THE HOUSE,

a two-story frame, situated about the middle of the alley. A rap at the door soon brought a colored woman to open it, when the question was asked who resided within, and in response the woman said, "Mary Armstead, her husband and three children." The object of the visit was made known to her, and the party invited into the house, where an awful stench prevailed and a room with surroundings of the most filthy order presented itself.

THE CHILD

was next inquired for, and finally, with much reluctance, it was shown. What a sight it was to witness! In a crib, wrapped in dirty rags, lay the little sufferer—a male white child—still as though in death. The child was removed from the crib, when it was found that it was nothing more than a pack of bones with flesh enough hardly to keep them together, presenting a sickening sight.

The child was replaced in its bed, when the following conversation took place with the mother:

"Who did you come in possession of this child?"

"I had born unto me about seven months since this child you see on the bed, (pointing to a hearty-looking little boy asleep near the other child,) and being poor with children that he could consume, I concluded to take another child. Making this known to my husband, he kept a lookout in the papers for an advertisement of a nurse, and about five months ago he read one in the papers signed by Dr. ——, I answered the advertisement, and was told to go to a house on Capitol hill, where a child could be had. On taking the child I was promised three dollars per week for taking care of it, and accordingly I brought it home to this house. The child was given to me by a white lady, who refused to give me her name, but said it would be all right, as the lady father who had sent me the baby had attended her during her confinement. I had the child several weeks, and during this time the doctor made several visits and left some medicines for its eyes, which were at this time very sore. I (?) when the doctor last visited the child. Thinking that something was wrong I called several times on Capitol hill to see its mother, when she expressed a perfect indifference as to the fate of the child, and said before the child was born she had tried every way to kill it and prevent its birth. She promised, however, to come and see it, but she never came. After the mother moved away from Capitol hill (and I mean to place where she resided, on Sixteenth street, near Boundary,) I sent the child to her several times by my little girl. Latterly a man, who is said to be the father, comes occasionally to see the child, and I have done and give me one dollar. The father is said to be a man doing a large business in Washington. Up to this time I have received $9 for my care of the child, and in addition to nursing I have to feed it the same as my own children. Its clothes are scarce."

She then referred to the fact that her child was robust and fat from the same breast, while the other child was puny, and she could not account for the difference in any other way than that it had been ill-treated before its birth. The examination of the woman here ended, and a visit was made to

THE HOUSE OF THE MOTHER,

on Sixteenth street, near the Boundary. The door was opened by a middle-aged woman, when the question was asked "if she was Mrs. ——." She replied, "No, but that she was her sister, who was at home, and had just come in from the Navy Yard on a visit, but that she could transact any business for her sister that was desired." The business was at once made known and the woman became very much confused, but soon regained control of herself, when she said she had her regret that the child was being ill cared for. Her statement of the affair was to the effect that after the birth of the child it was found that her sister could not nurse it, and the doctor who was attending recommended that she give it out to some responsible party, and accordingly advertised for one with the above result.

After she had been talking for some time, she said she was sorry to hear of its being in such a terrible place, and spoke as though she did not know so here it was. Afterwards in her conversation she admitted that she had been to see the child on last Tuesday. Finding that she was liable to tell things she ought not to, she began at this point to evince a desire that the conversation might cease. The party then left the officers took their departure, satisfied that something was wrong, and that either the mother was indifferent as to the fate of the child, or the woman who had charge of it was a fiend. We believe, in the latter case the nurse was not doing her duty. Nevertheless, it is a subject the police authorities should look into and investigate, as the Board of Health have no power in the premises.

NOTICES OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Foundry Sabbath school picnic to-day.

Pleasant rooms on Capitol hill for rent.

Five to ten thousand dollars are wanted.

E. McB. Tumoney has desirable property for sale.

Monthly meeting of the Jonadab Relief Association.

Storage can be obtained by applying to W. L. Wall & Co.

Carriages of the finest qualities at Robert H. Graham's.

Call on B. H. Warner for safe and profitable investments.

Desirable lots at Mount Pleasant for sale by B. H. Warner.

Dr. E. C. Meriam has resumed the practice of his profession.

An excellent assortment of fine carriages at John M. Young's.

Grand picnic at Beyer's Seventh street park Thursday, July 10.

A. J. Whitaker & Co., dealers in municipal bonds, 1427 F street.

The excursions of the steamer Keyport will be discontinued until further notice.

Refrigerators, water-coolers, cream freezers, &c., at Ogden's, 314 Seventh street.

Bogan & Wylie are offering their stock of dress goods at extremely low prices.

A resumed convocation of Lafayette R. A. Chapter, No. 5, will be held this evening.

Latimer & Cleary will sell, on Monday, July 21, all the frame buildings in Judiciary square.

Books of subscription to the capital stock of the Commercial Temperance Association are now open.

Johnson & Barnes will sell on Thursday, July 10, at 10 o'clock, a. m., a large collection of new and second-hand furniture.

B. H. Warner will sell, on Wednesday, July 23, at 6 o'clock, p. m., a three-story brick dwelling, No. 812 First street northwest.

B. H. Warner will sell, on Thursday, July 24, at 6 o'clock, p. m., valuable improved and unimproved real estate in Uniontown, D. C.

The coupons of July, 1857, and January, 1858 on the bonds of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company will be paid after the 15th instant.

Thomas E. Waggaman will sell on Monday, July 14, at 6 o'clock, p. m., valuable improved lots on Twenty-third street, between L and M streets northwest.

Thomas E. Waggaman will sell on Monday, July 14, at 5 o'clock, p. m., improved property on the northwest corner of Ohio avenue and Thirteen-and-a-half street.

B. H. Warner will sell, on Tuesday, July 22, at 6 o'clock, p. m., valuable improved property on Eleventh street, between South Carolina avenue and D street southwest.

The trustee's sale by B. H. Warner, auctioneer, of six new three-story Mansard-roof and basement brick houses, which was to have taken place yesterday afternoon, has been postponed until Saturday, July 26.

CARELESS USE OF FIREARMS.

A Narrow Escape from Death.

Another warning is given to those in the habit of carrying explosive weapons. Last evening Mr. Harry Leckie, who resides at 1104 Twelfth street, took his pistol out of his pocket, supposing it was empty, and handed it to little Neale Barry, son of Mr. Paul Barry, to play with. At length Mr. C. M. Atkinson took it out of his hand and snapped it at Mr. Leckie in sport. He then pulled the trigger again, and it exploded, the ball grazing Mr. Leckie's head and lodging in the ceiling above.

The Washington Schnetzen Verein.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Washington Schnetzen Verein was held last night at Wills' hall, on Seventh street, near I street, Simon Wolf, esq., presiding.

The report of the secretary on finances was read.

Mich. Thompson was accepted as an active member of the society.

Messrs. E. Asmer, W. Behrens and Von Kerber were appointed a committee to examine the finance secretary's report.

A motion was made and adopted to alter the constitution of the association so that hereafter meetings will be held monthly instead of quarterly.

The finance secretary was authorized to draw a salary of $250 per annum, and in the future only one secretary will be appointed, at a salary of $300. Adjourned.

Directors of the Metropolitan Street Railway.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Metropolitan Street Railroad Company, held yesterday at the company's office on Seventeenth streets, the gentlemen named below were elected to serve as directors for the ensuing year: J. W. Thompson, S. P. Brown, M. G. Emery, Lewis Clephane, Moses Kelly, A. H. Herr and Wm. Thompson.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY.

Their Excursion Last Night—The Affair a Grand Success.

Last evening the Lady of the Lake, Captain Warren, than whom no more gallant "sea dog" bids defiance to the dangers of the "briny deep," bore down the Potomac the Choral Society and their friends. The Chorals never pitched a more glorious note or maintained a better harmony. For days, in anticipation of this excursion, there has been "music in the air," and it culminated on the waves last night, when the refined and splendid party of ladies and gentlemen bade a momentary farewell to the dust and heated streets of city life to enjoy the beauty by moonlight of one of the proudest rivers in the world.

Fully three hundred and fifty persons, representing the *élite* (a just use of the word) of the city, enjoyed an excursion which was unanimously pronounced a great success; more than that, one specially replete with every advantageous grace and incident that renders, whether on the sea or on the land, social life agreeable.

At the wharf, before the boat started, one grumbler made his appearance, and yet, after all, it is just possible that he had a fight on his side, for he complained that at present Washington is very deficient in wharfage room.

He contended that there ought to be one grand wharf at least for the traveling public, and that gentlemen seeking pleasure should not be incommoded by piles of wood, piles of barrels and general rubbish, and that ladies and children ought not to be frightened half to death by prancing and skittish teams on the wharf removing the said rubbish. This grumbler's thoughts are commended to the Legislature.

The balance of the party were thrown into a splendid humor by happy and most favoring circumstances even before the Lady of the Lake started on her voyage.

A pocket well lined with money and a table well loaded with food are two things which lie at the very basis of human happiness. Now, if in a crowd the money and food are not apparent there are certain signs by which their presence may be known. So when the cold, calm, steady, far-seeing and fascinating faces of Walker and Davis and Swain and Magill appeared amid the throng on the wharf everybody felt relieved so far as the financial arrangements were concerned; and when the gang-plank echoed to those peculiar and awfully self-assured steps which solid bankers always take, everybody could see a vision dancing in the air of these green bottles whose necks are covered with golden seals, and into whose mouths are wired corks with such inspiriting names turned into them as Cliquot, Roderer, Romas and Goulet.

But this was not all. Money is one thing and something to eat is another, and as the crowd pressed through the gangway and up the shining brass-covered steps to the saloon table those great high priests of epicurean delights, Kennedy, of the famous hostelrie, the Arlington, and Welcker, who presides over the best restaurant in the city, were found ready to fill those tables to groan the long tables in the dining-saloon were suddenly covered with rich and fragrant nonpareils; fine cut glass made its appearance; silver dishes reflected the rays of the moon; white napkins and well-scrubbed children bore in the goodies by the bushel.

And then, again, all nervous apprehension of any kind of sickness was at once allayed by the presence of the Esculapians, Drs. Hartigan and young disciples of Æsculapius, Drs. Hartigan and Walsh. What could make a happier combination? But to make the cup of anticipated joy and fun quite full to the brim, who should come on board but Kellogg himself. It makes one die laughing simply to think of him. He had not been on board twenty minutes before old Momus himself came down from the spirit-land of wit and jollity to participate with his children in the fun.

It would be impossible to tell of one half of what was talked about on the voyage. A few young men, contemplating matrimony, had a perfect feast of the tongue. Dr. Hartigan, capturing Dr. Hartigan, interviewed him as to the possible frequency of four births at one time, (they had been reading about the unfortunate woman in East Washington,) and the doctor said it might happen, and had well calmed down their nervous, even if remote, apprehensions, when a long-bearded reader of musty literature came along and said he had read in Josephus of a woman who had seven well-authenticated case where a woman gave birth to twenty-two children at one time.

This startling announcement scattered the "engaged" into groups over all the boat like a flock of sheep. Some flew into the engine room, others to the ice-chests, and some, wiser than the rest, attempted a reassurance of their nerves with a glass of brandy-and-water. The young couple did not have much opportunity for conversation, however, that this occurrence in East Washington has frightened, within the last twenty-four hours, many a "catch" in this town out of all idea of investing anything in the marriage ritual of the Episcopal church.

The Lady of the Lake now passed the arsenal, and on the heights beyond the Insane asylum loomed up, and of course the next principal topic of conversation was the recent death of Mary Harris. Then her whole sad history was talked over; but time forbids us telling what was said. Fort Foote was reached, and the band played in passing the "Coliseum Quick Step," and then Fort Washington was reached, and the band played the "Sparkling Gem Quick Step," and a dirge in passing Mount Vernon. Here the scene on the river was very beautiful. On the west the sun bathed the hills and river in a flood of crimson and gold, and on the east the rising moon, "full orbed," kissed its hand "over the river" to the setting glory.

A traverse at this time the Chorals, under the skillful direction of Mr. Ewer, had been singing the lovely songs of "When evening's twilight," "Toast," "Gay Pilgrim," "Come in the stilly night," and others, and all this was enjoyed by Mrs. Philp, Mrs. Young, the Misses Solomons, Roach, Fowler, Bradley, Forrest, Mrs. Bonigny, Mrs. Murtagh, Mrs. Ross, Misses Hughes, Misses Coit, Mrs. Nesbit, Mrs. Young, Misses Wilson, Mrs. Welcker, Mrs. Allen, Miss Berens, Mrs. Kullinger, Mrs. Drinkard, Miss Reynolds, Miss Alexander, the Misses Boyd, Miss Hall, Miss Whiteley, Miss Wright, and many men, among them Messrs. Doyle, Whiting, Robertson, Morrison, Willis, Shalier, Ennis, Semken, Philp, Solomons, Dalton, Pearson, Maguire, Browning, Janvier, Chapman, Hutchinson, Coyle, Seglison, Morris, Lane, Young and many more.

The boat touched at Marshall Hall, and hundreds stopped there to enjoy the pleasures of the dance, while others steamed farther down the river for a moonlight sail. The party reached home at 12:30 o'clock, delighted with the excursion, and sorry that it could not last longer.

Metropolitan Theatre.

This place of amusement was well filled last night, the attraction being Miss Maggie Gray, in her inimitable banjo-boine, and Prof. Fox, in his imitations of birds, animals, &c. These are artists of genuine merit, and are winning cards wherever they appear.

Municipal Bonds.

Messrs. A. J. Whitaker & Co. advertise in our columns to-day good paying Western securities, in the shape of bonds issued for school, bridge and other public purposes. These bonds are becoming quite popular with the people.

THE COLUMBIA HOUSE, at Cape May, is kept by George J. Bolton, of the Washington hotel, on Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and Bolton's hotel, in Atlantic City. With a fine sandy beach extending quite to the surf, new and convenient bathing rooms, an elegant band of music, and every attention to be found at any resort in the country, the prices are fair, and special rates are made with families.

The Washington City Savings Bank,

corner of Seventh street and Louisiana avenue pays 6 per cent. interest on all deposits. Deposits can be made and drawn at will.

Important for Excursions and Picnics.

Excursions, picnics and church fairs can be supplied with Soda Water, Ginger Ale, Tonic Beer, &c., in bottles and steel fonts, at short notice, delivered to any part of the District, or packed for shipment. Our Ginger Ale this season is far superior to any other made in the District. Bottles and steel fountains loaned free of charge, by PALMER & GREEN, Georgetown.

PREVENTIVE OF HYDROPHOBIA.—Go to Savage's and buy a muzzle for your dog.

National Savings Bank,

corner of New York avenue and Fifteenth street, pays 6 per cent. per annum on deposits for each calendar month. Banking hours 9 to 4; Saturdays, 9 to 4 and 6 to 8.

Take Care of Your Valuables.

Call and examine the fire and burglar-proof vaults of the Safe Deposit Company, corner New York avenue and Fifteenth street, for safe-keeping of securities, jewels, silver-ware, or other valuables. Rents, from ten to sixty dollars per annum, according to size. No business man can afford to do without them.

Take warning from the Chicago and Boston fires.

J. H. Squier & Co., Bankers, No. 1416 Pennsylvania avenue, pay 6 per cent on all deposits.

THE COURTS.

Circuit Court—Judge Humphreys.

This court was engaged as follows yesterday: Eastwood vs. Creecy et al.; motion for a new trial on exceptions; exceptions agreed to, and case goes to the general term. Dittinger & Co. vs. Daniels & Stilson; judgment confessed. Preston vs. McRea & Segar; judgment by default. Chichester vs. Union Transfer Company; motion of the plaintiff suggesting the death of Stanton. Mills vs. St. Clair; case referred to J. J. Johnson; Jackson vs. Brooks; judgment affirmed. Adjourned.

Police Court—Judge Snell.

Minor cases occupied this court yesterday.

GEORGETOWN AFFAIRS.

THE GRAIN MARKET.—Two thousand bushels of corn and 150 bushels of wheat were received yesterday. The wheat sold at $1.80 and the corn at 75 cents per bushel.

FIRE.—Yesterday morning fire was discovered in the stable of Gov. Cooke, on Washington and Stoddard streets, which was extinguished without much loss. The fire originated in the hostler's room above the stable, and is supposed to have originated from a match dropped on the floor.

THE PICNIC given yesterday, at Analostan island, in aid of the family of J. W. Walker, who lost his leg by the upsetting of a reel while attending a fire in this city some weeks since, was a grand success, and a handsome sum was realized from the sale of tickets. Mr. Rodier, proprietor of the island, was untiring in his efforts to make the occasion successful.

STABBING AFFRAY.—Yesterday morning during an altercation between two boys named Robert Hay and Edward Chambers, colored, aged about fourteen years, on the corner of Bridge and Congress streets, Hay drew a knife and stabbed Chambers in the side. On committing the deed he left the scene. The wounded boy was removed to the station-house, when Dr. Appleton dressed the injury, and found that the knife had entered the right lung, producing a severe wound. He was afterwards removed to his home on Jackson street. Later in the day Officer Burrows arrested Chambers, and locked him up in the station-house to await the action of Judge Snell.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

SPIRITUALISM—THE LATE MEETING AT FRANK GUSNELL'S.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: The minuteness of detail and completeness of descriptive gives of a seance by Frank Gunnell before a delegation of East Washingtonians, which appeared in your valuable columns last Monday, excited, no doubt, the admiration of that class of persons who devote their time and attention to the mysteries of spiritualism. It is an amiable weakness, Mr. Editor, of the average American to be humbugged, and the nineteenth century has produced a system, which for fraud and social degradation exceeds in quality and quantity the folly of every previous age. I am acquainted with many East Washingtonians who of late have given their attention to this stupendous folly. Some of these were of the delegation who visited Gunnell, and who are yet in quite a dazed condition. This medium, I have heard, was in constant practice at his father's house years before he ever gave a public exhibition, and was instructed partly in the art by the Davenport brothers. For the edification of my friends of the delegation, I wish to lay before them some conclusions which I have entertained in regard to the subject of spiritualism.

Any one acquainted with the prevailing spirit of our times will not deny that since the introduction of modern Spiritualism into this country in 1848 by the Fox sisters of Rochester, New York, it has brought captive to its shrine over eleven millions of persons, each one professing his faith in the general truth of its creed, and appealing to their own experience in confirmation. Many of the brightest minds in the country are subject to its evil power, led captive by the same vapors which in former ages, according the Delphic cleft, filled man and beast with a strange delirium.

If we turn to the page of history we find the counterpart of spiritualism in the superst