PUBLIC SCHOOL GUARDIANS

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES LAST NIGHT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT WILSON—WHAT HAS BEEN DONE, AND WHAT IS PROPOSED—IMPORTANT FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS—TRANSACTION OF GENERAL BUSINESS.

Last night the Board of School Trustees met at the Franklin building, a large majority of the members being present. Mr. A. C. Richards, the president-elect, called the meeting to order and announced that it being an adjourned meeting, the minutes of the preceding meeting were not required.

Communications were at once called for, and Mr. Hart presented the resignation of Miss Katie V. Snyder, teacher of Secondary school No. 8, First district, to take effect the 30th of November; and it was accepted.

The teachers' reports were then submitted, and referred to the superintendent.

Applications for positions as teachers from Miss Nellie A. Warner, of New London, Conn., Mr. A. H. Caughey, of Erie, Pa., and Mr. A. J. Price, of Princeton, N. J., were then read and filed.

Mr. Wilson then announced that the library of the Normal school had been presented by Mrs. Wm. Hallaghan with a beautiful copy of the Bible, by L. Prang with a national series of chromos, and by A. H. Barnes with twenty volumes of the "Teachers' Library."

Mr. Alfred offered a resolution of thanks for these donations; and it was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Wilson then presented the following report for the month of November: Number of pupils on the rolls the last day of the month, 7,809; increase for the month, 49. Whole number of pupils enrolled during the month, 8,158; average number of pupils enrolled during the month, 7,913; average number of pupils in daily attendance during the month, 7,476; number of vacant seats, 360; number of applicants waiting admission, 64; number schools, 134. Average number of pupils in each school in the First district, 61.3; Second, 60.2; Third, 55.8; Fourth, 56.9—general average, 58.7. Percentage of attendance in the First district, 94.2; Second, 95.6; Third, 93.2; Fourth, 94.7—average percentage, 94.8. Number of cases of tardiness in the First district, 77; Second, 14; Third, 131; Fourth, 14—total, 236. Number of cases of presence at roll call, 208,600; percentage of tardiness, 0.14. Number of cases of corporal punishment in the First district, 7; Second, 1; Third, 4; Fourth, 4—total, 16. Number of pupils dismissed in the First district, 7; Second, 2; Third, 4; Fourth, 5—total, 18. Number of pupils suspended, 34. Number of indigent pupils furnished with books, 30. Number of visits of trustees, 645. Number of visits of superintendent, 244.

Mr. Hart presented the name of Miss Mary McCardle, of the Normal school, to fill the vacancy in the list of teachers occasioned by the resignation of Miss Snyder, and the nomination was confirmed.

Mr. Woodward moved that Primary school No. 1, Second district, be hereafter known as Secondary No. 13. The same gentleman moved that another primary school be organized in the Second district, as one of the schools now numbers 1[illegible] children, and is entirely too large for good government. He asked authority to rent a building for the purpose.

The matter was, on motion, referred to the committee on schools.

The reports of standing committees being next in order, Mr. Hart presented several bills approved by the committee on accounts, and they were referred back to the committee and payment sanctioned.

Mr. French presented the petition of all the teachers of the district, that their yearly salaries be paid in ten, instead of twelve, monthly installments.

Mr. Hart stated that the comptroller had already decided that this cannot be done in accordance with law.

The petition was referred to the committee on legislation.

Mr. Wolf offered the following tribute of respect to the memory of Prof. Agassiz:

Whereas science has lost one of its greatest lights in the death of Prof. Agassiz; and whereas society is the foundation of knowledge: Therefore, be it—

Resolved, That the board of trustees of the public schools of the city of Washington hereby express their great sorrow at the sudden death of the great scientist and discoverer.

Reports were made from the third and fourth districts as follows: Received from sale of old furniture, and the reports were ordered to be filed.

Mr. O'Driscoll moved that the comptroller be requested to inform the board as to the state of the appropriations for the schools. The was, on motion, referred to the committee on accounts.

Mr. Wilson, of the Fourth district, announced that he would call up at the next meeting his motion to abolish corporal punishment in the public schools.

The following is Mr. Wilson's proposed change:

Amend rule 23, on page 236 of the last annual report, so as to read as follows: Mild, conciliatory and firm discipline is enjoined on all teachers, with a due regard to the necessity of obedience on the part of the pupils; but in no case shall corporal punishment be inflicted.

On motion of Mr. Hart, ten thousand copies of the annual report of the superintendent were ordered after a full proof shall have been put in the hands of each member of this board, to be sent to be in hand prior to the next meeting of the board.

On motion, the board adjourned.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

The following interesting facts and recommendations are taken from the advanced sheets of the annual report of Superintendent J. O. Wilson:

Number of school buildings owned, 14; total number of school rooms, 135; total value of school property, $659,477; number of school districts, 4; total number of schools, 133; total number of teachers, 141; total number of pupils enrolled in all the grades, 8,935; average number of pupils in daily attendance in all the grades, 6,417; total payments during the year, $259,867.76; cost per pupil for tuition based upon the average number enrolled, $15.36; cost per pupil for incidental expenses, $7.80; total cost per pupil, $23.20.

The efficiency of our schools is now seriously impaired by the inadequacy of school accommodations, and some way should be devised at once to supply this great want. The demand for a building in the vicinity of Judiciary square for the girls of the Second school district is by far the most pressing. I stated in the report of this office for the last year, and urged the necessity for immediate action on the part of the Legislative Assembly.

The attendance in the public schools was lessened to a considerable extent by smallpox, which prevailed in certain parts of the city from October to February inclusive. The percentage of attendance, based upon the average number enrolled for 1871—72, was 92.3, and for 1872—73 was 92.1, showing a gain of one per cent. in favor of the latter year.

TEACHERS.

During the past year the number of changes in the corps of teachers was greater than usual. There May be classified as follows: Resigned, 16; died, 1; retired, 4; total, 21. The committee on teachers held four examinations, at which 153 candidates for appointment or promotion presented themselves. Certificates were issued to those who passed successfully, as follows: Primary, 36; Secondary, 18; Intermediate, 5; Grammar, 6; total, 65.

NORMAL SCHOOL.

For several years past the trustees of the public schools have appreciated to some extent the value of a professional education for teachers. The subject has frequently been discussed, and on more than one occasion the board has asked for authority to establish a normal school as a part of our system. This request was granted by an act of the Legislative Assembly, approved June 25, 1873. The duty of organizing this school was intrusted to a special committee of the board, consisting of Trustees Hayes, Handford, Powers, Champlin and the superintendent; and on the 1st of September last the school was opened, with twenty pupils, in charge of Miss Lucilla E. Smith, a graduate of the State Normal school at Farmington, Maine, and a teacher of several years' successful experience in our own city and elsewhere.

The female teachers of the public schools of this city now constitute ninety-five per cent. of the entire corps; and the demand for male teachers is, therefore, so slight that no necessity exists for any provision for their education in the normal school. Twenty young ladies, not less than seventeen years of age, and with scholastic attainments sufficient to qualify them to teach, are to be admitted annually and to receive a strictly professional course of instruction for one year.

The whole number of cases of tardiness was 5,113, making twenty-two hundredths of one per cent.; this is 1,764 cases less than the number for last year.

COURSE OF STUDY.

The course of study which was put on trial at the beginning of last year has fully met our expectations. In one half of the schools—the lower grades—I think that the work done was fully a third more than that of any previous year, and moreover, was generally improved in quality.

A normal school for girls has already been secured, and if no more can be done, a high school for boys should be provided at once. At first this school could be limited in the unexampled number of the hall of the Franklin building, which would be very suitable for the purpose. The expense would thus be limited to furnishing the room and providing a salary for the teacher. This, it true, would be but a beginning; but the work once begun, will surely go on until it satisfies all the just demands of education.

DRAWING.

Drawing has had a place on our regular list of studies since 1868, and during this period the pupils in our schools have been required to purchase drawing cards or books at a cost of $1,000 or $2,000 per annum.

VOCAL MUSIC.

No material change in the teaching of vocal music was made during the past year. The progress is satisfactory and the work having been divided between Professors Daniel and [illegible].

THE STUDY OF THE GERMAN

language in our schools was commenced under a law which authorized, but did not direct its introduction. The experiment has been tried, unfortunately, I think, when we have had no high school in which the study could be carried on until pupils gained a knowledge of the language that would be of some practical use. The pursuit of the study has been voluntary on the part of pupils from the first, and the trustees, feeling that the demand for it did not justify any interference with the programme of regular studies, have not allowed the recitations to occupy any part of the time fixed for the regular sessions of the schools.

THE SALARIES OF TEACHERS

now make up more than two-thirds of the entire expenses of the schools. These salaries are as liberal as they are in other cities; but they certainly ought not to be reduced. The average salary for each teacher during the past year was $707.25, while in the Government departments in this city ladies were paid at least $900 per annum for services not more arduous than those of the teacher, and requiring, certainly, not more ability and culture.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I have to submit for your special consideration the following recommendations, which require additional legislation:

1. That provision be made, at the earliest practicable moment, for the purchase of a site, and the erection of a suitable school building, in the Second school district, to accommodate the six or eight hundred girls who are now occupying rented rooms.

2. That a boys' high school be established, and a principal teacher employed at a salary of $2,000 per annum.

3. That a special teacher of drawing be appointed, at a salary not exceeding $1,200 per annum.

4. That authority be obtained to establish sixteen additional intermediate schools.

5. That the salary of each principal of a male grammar school be fixed at $1,800, with an annual increase of $100, until it reaches a maximum of $2,000; and the salary of each assistant in said school be fixed at $1,200, with an annual increase of $100, until it reaches a maximum of $1,400.

6. That the "Fund to endow the Public Schools," now amounting to about $80,000, be used to purchase a site and commence the erection of a building for a high school.

7. That a vigorous effort be made to induce Congress, during its present session, to give some aid, either by a donation of public lands or money, to the public schools of the District of Columbia.

I have purposely limited the foregoing recommendations to those things which at this time are most essential to the welfare and progress of the schools, and which ought to be established before the time arrives for writing the next annual report.

FINANCIAL.

The want of sufficient means must be our apology for not accomplishing more. This statement does not imply neglect of duty on the part of the tax-payers, or of the government of the District. The tax on each $100 of valuation, paid during the past year for the support of schools in the cities named, was as follows: Boston, 18.5 cents; Chicago, 29.4 cents; Baltimore, 27 cents. In Washington, during the first two years of the present government, commencing July 1, 1871, and ending June 30, 1873, the school tax on each $100 of valuation averaged 48.5 cents per annum. During the period named the District government has expended for the public schools of the city all the revenue derived from this tax, and a sum over and above this amounting to $193,626.72. Since 1862 the city of Washington has built up an excellent system of public schools for colored children, and there are at this time over 1,000 pupils on their rolls. Besides paying the current expenses of these schools, this provided for their permanent use sites and school buildings now valued at $250,000. During the same period, the great inequalities in the taxation of Georgetown have been adjusted, and there has been invested $1,000,000 in property for the permanent use of its public schools. Surely this is a fair record for the last decade.

I can also say that for the long war the Government aided extensively in initiating the elementary education of the colored people in Southern States and cities where they were not so numerous as they were in the District; but, so far as I am aware, not a dollar was ever expended here for this purpose. The Government has also, from time to time, made most liberal donations of public lands to aid in establishing and sustaining common schools in all the Territories as they become States. The District of Columbia, the permanent seat of the Government, over which Congress may exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, has had no share in the distribution of these educational benefactions. I feel confident, however, that Congress will yet do justice to the public schools of this District, and give them the aid to which they are entitled. This subject is now of paramount importance, and claims your best efforts.

THE FUNERAL OF MR. DENT.

The funeral services of the late Frederick Dent, esq., will be held at the Executive Mansion at 9:30 a. m. on Thursday, the 18th, Dr. Tiffany officiating. The remains will be taken to St. Louis, by the Baltimore and Potomac railroad, at 11:20. The following gentlemen will act as pallbearers: Hon. Hamilton Fish; Hon. Lewis V. Bogy, U. S. S.; Hon. E. O. Stannard, M. C.; Hon. Erastus Wells, M. C.; Hon. Wm. H. Stone, M. C.; Hon. Lloyd Lowndes, jr., M. C.; Hon. James S. Negley, M. C.; Gen. Wm. T. Sherman. The President, Col. Grant, Gen. Dent, Col. Casey, Marshal Sharp and Gen. Babcock will accompany the remains to St. Louis. The relatives of the family and only a few friends will be invited to the funeral in the morning.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

MEETING OF THE BOARD YESTERDAY.

The Board of Health held a regular meeting last evening, at their rooms; Dr. C. C. Cox, president, in the chair, and all the members present.

A synopsis of the operations of the health office for the past week was read. Number of nuisances reported, 428; abated, 398; referred, 103; complaints of citizens, 38; sewer notices issued, 11; lot notices issued, 17; nuisances reported to the Board of Public Works, 4; nuisances reported on board from Board of Public Works, 22; dead animals reported and removed, 35. Marine products—Inspections, 5,454 bunches fish, 38,930 bushels oysters; condemnations, 189 bunches of fish, 1,700 bushels oysters. Public slaughter-houses condemned, 222 pounds beef, 26 pounds veal, 236 pounds mutton, 285 pounds pork, 198 pounds ham, 11 beef livers, 239 turkeys, 160 chickens, 22 geese, 25 ducks, 15 birds, 36 rabbits, 1,000 dozen eggs, 3 bushels potatoes, 5 pumpkins, 4 squashes. Animals impounded, 7; redeemed, 2; sold, 1; killed, 4; amount realized, $6. Number of boxes cleaned, 1,152.

The health officer called attention to the unusual accumulation of filth and garbage in the alleys of the city, and asked that some means be taken looking towards its removal.

Mr. Marbury said that it was impossible to detect the persons making deposits of ashes and garbage in the alleys. It might be placed directly in front of premises that are always kept clean, and the owners of that property are unjustly made to suffer the consequences.

On motion of Mr. Dr. Verdi, the president was invited to write a communication to the Board of Public Works, informing them of the condition of these alleys, and the desire to have them more promptly cleaned.

PROPERTY CONDEMNED.

On recommendation of the health officer the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the six brick houses and premises situated in the alley between G and H and Sixth and Seventh streets northwest, the property of Joseph C. Lewis, having insufficient privy accommodation, leaky and improperly located privy boxes, being filthy and overcrowded, in bad sanitary condition generally and unfit for human habitation, are hereby declared to be a nuisance injurious to health.

The health officer was ordered to abate the same.

The mortuary report for the month of November shows that there were reported, 195 white; 105 colored; 30 males, 81 females, 69; number of deaths, 161; certified by the coroner, 13.

Mr. Langston stated that the committee had waited upon the Governor, and he suggested as the best mode of proceeding that they use his private proposals for the removal of the garbage by contract, which should be entered into at an early day, and be done under the direction of the board. He was willing to assist the board in every way in the subject, and the committee hoped an arrangement could be made so that Mr. Sawyer would not be disturbed in the enjoyment of his contract.

The committee was continued.

The board then adjourned.

A CARD FROM MR. MICHENER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16, 1873.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: In THE REPUBLICAN of this morning I find the following paragraph, viz:

"*Arrest of a Past Office Official.*—The special officer of the Post Office Department yesterday arrested Captain E. E. Michener, who for 8 or 10 years past has been in charge of the dead letter office, on the charge of embezzling moneys found in dead letters. He was taken before United States Commissioner J. J. Jenkins, and gave bail in the sum of $5,000 for his appearance on Monday, Dr. Cox giving the required bond."

Having had for the last six years a large and intimate acquaintance in this community, I owe it to my friends, not less than to myself, to expressly state that the substance of the false and slanderous charges which have been made against me.

Conscious of my own innocence and inflexible in my purpose to vindicate myself from the foul aspersions that have been cast upon me, I ask a suspension of the public opinion and judgment in my case until I can have a hearing on Monday of next week. I have been the incumbent of a responsible position for the last ten years, and have discharged its duties with conscientious fidelity, though I have been aware, for much of the time, that I have been the object of the suspicion of a few envious and malignant souls who were anxious to displace and supplant me. Whether their efforts are to succeed or not, whether a conspiracy to ruin and disgrace me is to prevail against a blameless, upright and honorable record in peace and war, a few days or weeks at most will determine.

In the meantime, I trust my friends and the citizens of Washington who know me will not give a ready ear to the slander and groundless rumors and accusations against me.

JOHN E. MICHENER, Dead Letter Office.

TWO CARPET-BAGGERS.

ARREST OF CONFIDENCE MEN AND SPIEL-MARK SHOWERS.

Last night, about 9 o'clock, Detectives McFirsch, Sargent, McDevitt and Miller met by accident at one of the prominent corners in the city, and halting for a short conversation they noticed among the passers-by two well-dressed young men, of rather suspicious appearance, each of whom carried a carpet-bag. The opinion of the four officers was that the parties were "on right," and they concluded to follow them and ascertain their status. After a short walk they were overhauled and stopped, and failing to give a good account of themselves were taken to police headquarters. Upon their persons were found the counterfeits proved to the officers that they had not been mistaken in their estimate of the men, for in them were found blank checks on all the banks in the city, chemicals and ink for erasing and raising checks, and a lot of spiel-mark of different kinds. It was then ascertained that the parties were John McCarty and George Gadfrey, two of the most expert confidence men of the West, who had taken a quiet jaunt to this city for the purpose of making a "stake." They were locked up for the night to prevent them doing any mischief, and as there is no law under which to punish them they will probably be required to leave the city to-day.

THE TEMPERANCE CAUSE.

The annual meeting of the Immaculate Conception Temperance Society was held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday night, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President *ex officio*, Rev. P. F. McCarthy; first vice president, John J. Joyce; second vice president, John Dalton; secretary, J. Howard Bushnell; assistant secretary, Arthur H. Glennan; treasurer, Samuel N. Clagett; executive committee—John Doran, Dennis Callahan, Wm. Tinkler, Wm. Maghan and Dennis Kennelly; committee on public lectures—Geo. W. Major, C. P. Clark and J. Howard Bushnell.

The members of the society, in accordance with their annual custom, renewed the pledge of total abstinence at this meeting.

The Immaculate Conception Temperance Society was organized November 22, 1868, and now has ninety names on its roll of membership. The next public meeting will be held on Sunday evening, the 28th of the present month.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

At the annual meeting of the board of directors of this hospital, held on Monday, December 8, the reports of the president of the board, Mr. J. V. Niles, and of the chairman of the medical board, Dr. W. P. Johnston, were presented, and showed the practical working of the institution during the past year to have been as follows: Patients admitted into the hospital during the past year, 111; patients treated in dispensary, 360; total attendances performed, 3[illegible]. Of the all patients 20[illegible], or not quite one half, were natives of the District of Columbia.

KEEP OUT OF THE COLD.

Go to Savage's and get him to put his unrivaled weather-strip on your windows and doors. Many have been comforted, and advise their friends to go and do likewise. Jos. L. S[illegible], Pennsylvania avenue and Tenth street.

AN INDIGNANT PARENT.

MR. BLISS' DEFENCE FOR HORSE-WHIPPING HIS DAUGHTER.

HOW MEDDLING NEIGHBORS INTERFERED WITH HIS DOMESTIC AFFAIRS AND TAUGHT HIS CHILDREN DISOBEDIENCE—HIS IDEAS OF PARENTAL AUTHORITY AND DISCIPLINE.

WASHINGTON, December 16, 1873.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: It has not been my habit to pay any attention to slanderous articles published by the press, especially those to which the writers dare not put their signatures, but I will depart from my usual practice and say a few words in reply to the article in your paper of Monday. It could not have emanated from a father; it might have been written by a libertine, who would be glad to see all restraint removed that would in any way interfere with his practices.

My record as city surveyor I stand by, and have always found that all complaints against me while in office came from those who found me impervious to bribery; and such complaints I pass by with idle contempt. As to my abrupt manner, if not so agreeable, it is more honest than the smooth, deceitful and oily manner that is assumed to win favors or heodwink others.

As a father I claim a right to control my family as well myself, and the "Bliss discipline" has always proved a good one and a harmonious one until meddling neighbors made my family matters their own hands. For the two years we have suffered severely by this interference, and every effort has been made to make trouble in my family. There is no family in the land whose private life is such as will bear the public gaze, and I feel sure there has been no more discord in mine than exists in many others. I am a father of the old "Puritan stock," thank God! And, with strict ideas of the duty of children to parents, I demand and will have obedience to my commands. I am not willing my children should go out evening after evening to dancing schools or other doubtful places without my knowledge or consent, and with no escort but a girl like themselves. Such practices are unknown to them until the last two years, and I had positively and repeatedly forbidden such things. The class of gentlemen whose acquaintance they made at such places were not such as I wish to see with my daughters. My wishes and earnest entreaties were disregarded. Every facility was provided for company at home or proper escort out. No matter what a censorious public may say, or what meddlesome neighbors advise, I will never consent to let my children conduct themselves as loosely as some do, and accept alte tions from any man who is socially better than them. I do not seek to justify an act for which I am accountable to no one. The garbled and lying account of the affair would be greatly exceed if the public knew my side of the story, and it is not just in the press to so wilfully misrepresent a matter only of any affair. As to the star cast upon her who is a dozen years has been a true mother I pronounce it a vile slander. For her record I refer any one to those who have known me intimately, and know what sort of a mother she has made, and not to outsiders, with whomshe has associated very little. No sensible person would object to my wish that my children associate with those in their own station in life. I educated them in housework, and they were willing and content until meddlers put discontent into their minds.

Those who know the fact that my wife was under the care of a physician for the summer and early fall, and twice was ill almost unto death, will easily understand why she was often compelled to remain "serene," and the heart must be vile and malicious, indeed, that seeks to cast a slur on her who for months has been a sick and sufferer. Let those whose long prying interest in my family matters learn to mind their own business, and I can answer for it there will be no more libels. As long as my family matters are constantly brought to hear upon us, ingenious efforts made to ferret out our private matters and influence my daughters' minds against parental control, there can be no peace. Because one person chooses to allow a child to come home at all hours of day or night and with all classes of companions, I do not think it my duty to extend the same privileges to my daughters, and I will never do it, no matter what the world may think or say. I am their natural protector, and claim the right to govern my children according to my own conscience and the laws of God and man, and neither ask nor desire the advice of those incapable of giving it.

HIRAM BLISS.

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.

LECTURE BY PROF. F. V. HAYDEN.

The second of the course of lectures announced under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association was delivered last night at Lincoln hall by Prof. F. V. Hayden, of the Interior Department, his subject being the "Great Yellowstone National Park." The auditorium of the hall was well filled, and many of the gallery seats were occupied. The lecture was given for the benefit of the Industrial Home school, of Georgetown, and was illustrated by views, embracing some of the grandest scenery in Montana and Colorado.

The various pictures were thrown upon a screen from a camera in the centre of the hall, an electric light having been used of seventy times the power of the common light. The views thus embraced the Yellowstone Valley, the Canon, the various falls, the Mammoth Hot Springs, the Mud Pots, the Hot Springs, the Architectural Geysers, the Upper Geyser Basin, the Bee Hive, the Giant Geyser, the Grotto, Old Faithful, the Three Tetons, the Palisades on Gallatin river, the Monument Park, the Garden of the Gods, the Holy Cross and other magnificent views, forty-eight in all, besides maps of the National Park, the Four Great Passes, the Upper Geyser Basin and the Snake river mountains.

As the pictures passed in review before the intelligent assemblage, Prof. Hayden pointed out and explained their grand characteristics. Among them were several which portrayed the wild life of the explorers and also that of the Indians. The views of the Grand Tetons were very fine, and brought clearly before the audience one of the loftiest and most picturesque ranges on the continent of America. The speaker said there are many beautiful watering places of Colorado were also very attractive and wonderful.

The running commentary of the Professor gave his large audience a clear understanding of the geological structure of these regions, and of the natural formations, and enabled them to comprehend the wonderful scenery of the Great West more clearly than they possibly could by a series of elaborate lectures on the subject.

We are pleased to be able to state that, apart from its scientific merit, the lecture was a financial success in the interest of a deserving charity.

The next lecture of the course will be delivered on Tuesday evening, the 23d instant, by Thomas Nast.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A new brick house for sale.
Men wanted for the Marine Corps.
Beautiful lots for sale at a bargain.
Professor Peralbeau's concert to-night.
A public temperance meeting to-night.
First floor of a new brick house for rent.
Ford's Opera House—Miss Clara Morris.
Professor Tripp's grand descriptive series.
Carriages at reduced prices at R. H. Graham's.
Hope Lodge, No. 23, F. A. M., will meet to-day.
Rev. Thomas Galladet, D. D., will preach tomorrow evening.
Holmead & Co., china merchants, No. 916 Seventh street northwest.
E. Moll, Timoney & Co. will sell to-day valuable property in Square 348.
Latimer & Cleary will sell, on Saturday, at 7 p. m., a superior collection of goods.
Wm. L. Wall & Co. will sell, Friday, December 19, at 10 a. m., a large assortment of furniture.
Duncanson, Dowling & Co. will sell, Tuesday, December 23, the entire contents of the grocery store corner of Sixth and D streets northwest.

A REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY.

Col. E. F. M. Fechts and Mr. F. W. Pratt, at the request and under the auspices of Messrs. Fitch & Fox, are preparing a real estate directory of this city, which will prove valuable as a manual for business men, real estate brokers, insurance agents, conveyancers and others. The directory is being issued in series, the first two numbers of which have already appeared. It contains a separate plat of each square in the city on a scale of fifty feet to the inch; also, a statistical table for each square containing a description of each square recorded up to September 1, 1873, and such valuation and description of ground and improvements as fixed thereon by the assessors for the fiscal year 1873-74, and as adjusted by the Board of Appeals. The correctness of the plats is certified to by Mr. Wm. Forsyth, and in regard to statistical tables by Mr. Wm. Morgan, chief clerk, both showing the completeness and reliability of the work. The remaining numbers should be with the early, which they will not be long, from the growing importance of the work.

RAILROAD ENTERPRISE.

Wm. H. Vanderbilt and James Rudjanah, esq., have taken a contract to grade a part of the road-bed of the Southern Maryland railroad, and started down the river on the steamer Lady Lee yesterday morning with a large force of men, horses and mules, and a full outfit of implements &c. These make five contractors who are now at work on this road, and the grading is being pushed forward with energy. Engineers are now at work on the road, and the grading is being completed and all being made ready for the rail. The road is now being made by President Stone and others from Washington to Leonardtown, a distance of thirty miles, connecting Leonardtown with Washington by rail with the sea, from which point the road will prove undoubtedly a very great benefit.

MASONIC ELECTION.

At a regular communication of Laurel Wreath Lodge, No. 14, A. F. and A. M., held at Laurel, Maryland, on Monday evening, the following named officers were elected for the ensuing term: W. M., Wm. H. Harrison; S. W., James Carter; J. W., Charles F. Shaffer; secretary, Jacob H. Plowman; treasurer, John D. Lamborn; tyler, Thomas S. Young.

The officers of Potomac Lodge, No. 5, were installed on Monday evening in Odd Fellows' hall, Georgetown, the following officers were elected: W. M., Walter T. Wheatley; S. W., [illegible]; J. W., [illegible]; secretary, [illegible]; treasurer, [illegible].

EPITHALAMIAL.

Miss Emily L. Gibbs was married to Mr. Charles H. Allen, at Georgetown, last month. Miss Gibbs is well known in Washington, where she passed her search as correspondent for a Chicago journal, and where her amiable qualities, added to her literary talents, made her a large circle of warm friends. Mr. Allen will hereafter reside in New York, where her husband is engaged in business. She will continue her literary labors there during the winter.

BAKED BEANS AND BOSTON BROWN BREAD, exact New England style, every day at Parker's, No. 420 Seventh street, opposite Odd Fellows' Hall. Families supplied Sunday mornings 25 cents per pint.

"SHAKESPEARE AND HIS LIFE"

is the subject of the lecture to be delivered in Wednesday evening, December 17, at the Washington Business College, corner of Seventh and L streets, by the Rev. W. H. Gray, of Baltimore. No charge for admission. The public cordially invited.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

And now they say Dr. Christian, the resurrectionist, is not a doctor.

Robert H. Ward has sold to Mr. George Follansbee lots 1, 2 and 3, square 676, fronting 50 feet on H street, between North Capitol and First streets, for $6,000 per front foot.

Mr. Edward Foster, draughtsman in the construction department, whose illness was noticed in yesterday's issue, died at his residence, 922 Eighth street southeast, at 11 a. m. yesterday.

Orders were issued yesterday by the Board of Public Works for the renewal, laying brick foot walks and paving the carriageway of East and West Market Space, Georgetown, with cobblestones.

The sixth monthly meeting of the Metropolitan Building Association was held on last Monday evening, at the Board of Trade rooms. Thirty-six shares were advanced on, at a premium averaging 36½ per cent.

At the twenty-third meeting of the Territorial Building Association, on Friday night, 24 shares were advanced on, at an average of 34 per cent. Quite a large amount of stock was taken in the eighth series.

The house of J. W. Boden, located at No. 211 Twelfth street southwest, was burned on Saturday night and providence and sundry other articles stolen. Information of the fact was communicated to police headquarters.

The funeral of the late Thomas P. Neasey took place yesterday afternoon from St. Stephen's church, and was attended by Hibernian No. 1 and the West End Hibernian Society. The remains were interred in Mt. Olivet cemetery.

An attempt was made, last Sunday morning, to rob the store of Mr. J. Louis Dwoskin, on the southeast corner of Fifth and F streets northwest. The thieves bored seven auger holes in the front door, but it being lined with iron, they were foiled.

YOUNG MEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB.

The Young Men's Republican Club of the District will hold a very important meeting to-night at the office of James Hudson, esq., on E street, near Thirteenth, as will be seen by the announcement made in our advertising columns.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR VALUABLES.

Call and examine the fire and burglar-proof vaults of the Safe Deposit Company, corner of 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.

Taken from the Chicago and Boston Ares.

THE COURTS.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

TUESDAY, Dec. 16, 1873.

On motion of Mr. Chas. O'Conor, Joseph P. Comerey, esq., of Dover, Del., Joseph M. Rosenbaum, esq., of New York city, and Wm. W. Crump, esq., of Richmond, Va., are admitted to practice as attorneys and counsellors of this court.

On motion of Mr. Chas. O'Conor, James B. Bradwell, esq., of Chicago, Ill., was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor at this court.

On motion of Mr. F. P. Stanton, Jason Niles, esq., of Kaskaskia, Ill., was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor at this court.

No. 168. Mayor, &c., of Nashville, plaintiffs in error, vs. Wm. Ray. Passed.

No. 175. Mayor, &c., of Nashville, plaintiffs in error, vs. H. Lindsay. To be argued with No. 166.

No. 480. The Town of Ohio, plaintiff in error, vs. Geo. O. Marcy. This cause was submitted on printed arguments by Mr. J. R. Hawley, counsel for the plaintiff in error, and by Mr. Geo. O. Ide for the defendant in error, under the 20th rule.

No. 154. H. R. Hall and T. F. Conley at al., plaintiffs in error, vs. Wm. Jordan. This cause was argued by Mr. F. P. Stanton, of counsel for the defendant in error, and submitted on printed arguments by Mr. J. M. Carlisle and Mr. J. R. Embry for the plaintiffs in error.

No. 157. Adolph Guttman et al., appellants, vs. The United States. This cause was argued by Mr. T. J. Durant and Mr. Benj. Urquhart for the appellants, and by Mr. Assistant Attorney General Hill for the appellees.

No. 152. The United States, appellants, vs. Manderville Marigny et al.;

No. 159. The United States, appellants, vs. Heirs of Thomas Power, deceased; and

No. 160. The United States, appellants, vs. Michel de Armas et al. Affirmed on authority of United States vs. Arredondo, 6 Pet. 691.

No. 161. United States, plaintiffs, vs. George Cooke. Passed.

No. 194, (substituted for 162.) George and J. V. Clarke, appellants, vs. Jas. B. Johnson and Adam Norris, executors. The argument of this cause was commenced by Mr. F. Phillips, of counsel for the appellants, and continued by Mr. Charles O'Conor for the appellees.

The court adjourned until Monday next at 12 o'clock.

SPECIAL TERM—MR. JUSTICE WYLIE.

This court was engaged as follows yesterday:

Jackson & Brumagin vs. Board of Public Works and Hoffman. Order awarding injunction.

Felker vs. Felker. Order to issue rule on defendant to show cause against alimony.

C. W. Beaver et al. vs. Wm. Swan. Decree for sale with F. W. Jones as trustee.

Welch vs. Burch. Submitted on the papers.

Timberlake vs. Timberlake. Case submitted to the court.

Calvert vs. Perkins. Final confirmation of trustee's sale.

Adjourned.

CIRCUIT COURT—JUSTICE MACARTHUR.

This court was engaged as follows yesterday:

C. W. Havener et al. vs. John Wilkes et al. Order of reference to W. S. Cox.

James and Henrietta Denny vs. Peter Monaghan. Case with jury.

CASES TO-DAY.

The following cases are assigned for trial to-day: Nos. 247, 251, 253, 254, 255, 257, 259, 149, 43, (appeal,) 66, 205, 52, 225, 20, (appeal,) 208, 43 and 108. Adjourned.

CRIMINAL COURT—CHIEF JUSTICE CARTER.

This court was engaged as follows yesterday:

Wm. Johnson, larceny. A *nolle pros.* was entered in this case.

Chas. Reed and Spider Brown, larceny. A *nolle pros.* was entered also in this case.

A. B. Grant, receiving officer. A *nolle pros.* entered. Adjourned.

PROBATE COURT—JUDGE OLIN.

Yesterday, in the matter of the papers purporting to be wills of the late Adam Grinder, the court passed an order directing trustees to be sent to the Circuit Court to determine whether, at the time of executing the paper bearing date of December 28, 1871, the said Grinder was of sound mind, &c. General Charles Maurice was appointed guardian of Gertrude J. Seibert, orphan of the late Wm. Seibert. Letters of administration on the estate of the late John Smith were issued to Mr. Thomas Smith. The will of Elizabeth Nicholson, bequeathing his estate to his widow, was fully proven. Stephen Giusia was appointed guardian to his son, Michael Giusia. S. G. Addis was appointed guardian of her children. The will of the late L. Polkinhorn, bequeathing his estate to his wife, was filed. John McGrann was appointed administrator of the estate of Patrick Courtney, deceased. Charles B. Pearson and Mary J. Nutter qualified as administrators, with the will annexed, of A. B. Nutter; bond $20,000.

POLICE COURT—JUDGE SNELL.

Yesterday Thomas Nash, assault on Oscar Howard; $50 and costs. Henry Hummell, robbery; committed for action of the grand jury. Lemuel Weeden, assault and battery on Landrick Leftwich; $5. Wm. W. Carter and Wm. Lightner, engaging in an affray; $5 each. Henry Johnson, assault on Mary Jones; $10 and costs. The body-snatching cases were postponed. Adjourned.

THE CUBAN SENORITA.

The features of the creole young lady are generally good, and the complexion of the younger among them, though perfectly pale, is of that rich paleness which resembles the sunny hue of antique marble.

The Cuban senorita, unlike her Mexican sister, is not arrayed in the most intense colors as vivid as the hues of the flamingo and the parrot, but in exquisite flowery and jaquoy. She is chaste in her dress, and also in her language and deportment. Hence lacks some of the sterling qualities of her paleface sister and blue-eyed American neighbor, she is free from her awkwardness. This is certainly a gain.

In a coquettishness in her radiant and jet black eyes. There is a sinuous grace of her movements in consistent with surroundings, an engagering faith in her religious belief really admirable. Although her whole life has been spent in the theatre, the concert hall and the opera, she is not rendered blase by her continually frequented by her, and their the latters her prayers and tells her beads with a modest air of gladness.

She has the magic influence of the climate in the sweet tones of her voice, in the dreamy and quiet look, and the grace of her attitudes.

She has great care of her complexion, and constantly wears roses and jessamines in her hair, with shines as a decoration of her.

The dance is her passion. In its slow, graceful and delicious whirl her eyes flash with supreme happiness. She has a weakness for Americans, which is the torture of her countrymen's life.

The *cascadeuse* is the most attractive dance of her warm, languid life—the earliest and most national of Cuban dances.

Without love the world is an chaos to her. If a sinful thought for a moment break on her mind, it is "like moonlight on a troubled sea, or a Bright'ning the storm it cannot calm."

Among the different type of women, the Cuban girl is certainly worthy of study. It must be confessed that she is generally wanting in the characteristics of her race than of education.

Besides being a good and affectionate wife and mother, contented in poverty as in wealth, and attending with scrupulous care to all domestic affairs, the Cuban woman is intensely patriotic.

In the struggle for Cuban rights and freedom, the patriots have had no more powerful auxiliaries than the women of Cuba. As in ancient Rome, after the battle of Cannae, which was won by Hannibal, the Senate called on the people spontaneously to sacrifice all their wealth on the altar of their fatherland, so during the present contest for the independence of the fair isle, every jewel and every ornament has been brought forth by the ladies of Cuba, in order that material of war might be purchased to carry on the struggle. These noble girls, as it is well known, not only have been executed by the vile Spaniards for their patriotism, but tortured by the flogging hands of brutal soldiers, who dared to outrage human nature in womanhood.

JAPANESE editors are allowed to carry swords, and a common man like to take off his hat to them.

A RHODE ISLAND JURY were five days debating on a hog case involving $7, and then recommended both men to the merc