CASE OF GEN. O. O. HOWARD

ANOTHER COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF GEN. HOWARD—LIST OF DEFICITS AND OVER-STATEMENTS IN THE ACCOUNTS OF GEN. BALLOCH—THE EXAMINATION STILL IN PROGRESS.

The Secretary of War transmitted to the House of Representatives yesterday afternoon a further communication in relation to the alleged irregularities in the Freedmen's Bureau by General Howard and General George W. Balloch. The Secretary states that on December 19 the Adjutant General of the army completed an investigation based upon information furnished over the signatures of the Treasurer of the United States and of the accounting officers of the Treasury. This investigation involves (through General Balloch, into disbursing officer of the Freedmen's Bureau,) a responsibility and accountability of the late Commissioner General O. O. Howard, and shows that funds of the United States duly certified as deposited with the United States Treasurer and in other depositories were not so deposited. The deficits or amounts over stated, show the Secretary, by the disbursing officers, are for the United States Treasury at Washington, D. C., as indicated in the following for the last days of the respective months, viz:

1867—June, $6,175.54; July, $16,273.71; October, $26,686.22; November, $14,022.26; December, $126,729.61.

1868—January, $159,776; February, $148,099.36; March, $380,020.12; April, $200,747.11; May, $152,515.66; June, $151,798.72; July, $117,543.27; August, $706,753.82; September, $431,652.30; October, $417,641.38; November, $284,048.45; December, $117,017.62.

1869—January, $220,270; February, $585,206; March, $223,017; April, $200,331; May, $130,037; June, $69,719; July, $183,454; August, $213,139; September, $208,168; October, $735,355; November, $150,208; December, $263,479.

1870—January, $660,186.84; February, $620,576.28; March, $636,334.62; April, $667,400.97; May, $501,191.37; June, $635,472.96; July, $496,862.22; August, $588,861.96; September, $421,115.83; October, $634,650.16; November, $550,222.43; December, $456,762.48.

1871—January, $474,863; February, $158,180; March, $383,249; April, $354,018; May, $575,716; June, $235,613; July, $111,289; August, $34,637; September, $2,701.

In September General Balloch was relieved.

THE DEFICITS

allnded to were at Washington, New York, Baltimore, Charleston, Louisville, St. Louis, Nashville, Memphis and Mobile. The deficits range from several hundred to forty-three thousand dollars, and are for various months from March, 1867, to August, 1871.

The Secretary says it is proper to state that an examination similar to that under which the foregoing was developed has failed to show deficits in the individual account of General Howard or of Major J. M. Brown, the other disbursing officer.

On December 21 a note was addressed to Gen. Howard, directing him to arrange for an interview between himself, Gen. Balloch, and the Secretary of War, at the War Department, the 22d. A memorandum of that interview is given. Balloch was asked whether he recalled to his recollection the investigation made by Gen. Shriver relative to the $280,000 land securities, and he replied affirmatively. In answer to a question about certain funds which were not on deposit with the United States Treasurer, and whether his account at any other time or times represented funds as deposited in the Treasury when it was not so, Balloch replied that he did not know.

Mr. Balloch was then shown the statement of discrepancies and deficits given above, and was asked to explain them. He said he could not give any explanation, except that they were occasioned by his reporting as on deposit the value of Treasury certificates which were in the hands of Major Hodge, late paymaster of the United States Army, which were not really paid.

After the parties had separated from the above interview, Gen. Howard returned to the Secretary of War, and said that Balloch had stated to him that the difference in the report of the sums deposited must have been occasioned by the unpaid certificates in Hodge's hands. Gen. Howard himself knew nothing of the matter.

On December 23 Gen. Howard called at the War Department and handed the Secretary a letter from Gen. Balloch, in which the latter said he had examined the retained papers in his possession, and at the proper time, and before the proper tribunal, he would explain the discrepancies. This seemed to the Secretary of War to be a disinclination to submit the proper explanation, and he therefore addressed a letter to Howard under date of December 24, informing him that the accounting officers of the Treasury and the Treasurer of the United States were the proper officers to be called upon for explanation, and directing Howard to place himself in communication with the Treasurer and accounting officers, so that all explanations might be submitted prior to December 31.

On December 26 Gen. Howard requested a tabular statement of Mr. Balloch's deficits and discrepancies. The Secretary of War referred him to the accounting officers of the Treasury, and on the same date referred the whole matter to the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury for their consideration.

By letter of December 30, the General transmitted a general statement for Mr. Balloch in partial explanation, in which Mr. Balloch makes

THE FOLLOWING ADMISSIONS:

1. That partial payments were made to contractors, and that the amount of checks given for such partial payments would be considered as in the Treasury until the final settlement was made.

2. That prior to the bounty certificates, as received from the Second Auditor, being paid by the pay department of the army, the amounts covered by them were in making up the account current for each month considered as in the Treasury.

3. That there was no special deposit with the United States Treasurer in this connection, that the pay department was always behind in forwarding accounts;

3. That there was on special deposit with the United States Treasurer from February, 1870, to February, 1871, United States securities costing $234,875, and from March, 1871, to October 11, 1871, some other securities, costing $273,375, and that these amounts should be added to the amounts as shown by the books of the Treasury during the period mentioned.

These admissions, says the Secretary of War, support the truthfulness of the disclosures made by the Treasury records, and are in conflict with the account rendered by the accounting officers.

From August 31, 1867, to August 31, 1868, Balloch, it seems, received from the pay department $3,336,636.71, an average of $278,053.30 per month. The Secretary of War concludes, from Balloch's own admissions as above, that all the money which he certifies was in the Treasury was not there. As to the third admission, the Secretary says he had no authority whatever to make an investment in United States securities, and the discrepancies were too large to admit of explanation through transfer drafts. The foregoing the Secretary says involves violations of the following acts of Congress, viz: the 39th Article of War; sections 16 and 21 of the act of August 6, 1846; 9th Statutes, page 62, and section 2 of the act of January 14, 1860; 14th Statutes, pages 64 and 65.

INFORMATION ASKED FOR.

Under date of January 2, 1874, the Secretary of War asked Gen. Howard to give the following information, which he is to ascertain from Balloch: 1. As to the specific character of the certificates and the authority for converting funds into securities. 2. The object of such conversion. 3. To what object the said funds were applied. 4. If they were funded in United States securities, what interest had accrued and what was done with the interest. 5. What increase was imported by the use of the funds represented by said securities, and what disposition was made of the increase. 6. Why these transactions were not referred to when Gen. Shriver was investigating what had become of the $280,000 in bonds.

On January 3 Balloch replied through Gen. Howard, and answered: First, that the securities were what were known as currency and that the face value was over $300,000, and the accrued interest amounted to $34,875. They were purchased by order of Gen. Howard, after consultation with Treasury officials. Second, the object of the conversion was to create a fund out of which to reimburse double payments made to the wrong parties or on false identifications, and to eke out the meagre appropriation for the Freedman's Bureau. Third, the fund represented the net amount of interest and premium accrued was $19,442.57, which was absorbed by the refugees and freedmen's fund under the act of June 15, 1866, and which was expended as follows:

For reimbursement for double payment of bounties	$1,338 56
For school-houses and asylums	16,650 25
Salaries of agents and clerks	1,356 00
Stationery and printing	103 76
Total	$19,442 57

4. That the list of securities held from March to October, 1871, were the only ones that General Shriver was authorized to investigate; and fifth, that he did not refer to the other securities, because he was not asked about them.

The Secretary, in conclusion, say, the examination is still in progress, and that he will communicate to the House any further information he may obtain on the subject.

PERSONAL.

Dr. Sam. Baird of Atlanta, Ga., is in the city, and has rooms at 467 C street northwest.

The Hon. Samuel Hooper, of Massachusetts, arrived yesterday, having been detained at his home several days beyond the holiday recess on account of the death of a sister.

Senator Ames, of Mississippi, left Washington last night for Jackson. It is understood that he will soon resign his position as Senator for the purpose of accepting the office of Governor of Mississippi, to which he has been elected.

Maj. Gen. Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, president of the Aztec Club, organized in the City of Mexico during the war with that country, has informed the Executive Committee of Arrangements that he will attend the convention of Mexican veterans, to be held in this city on the 15th inst.

Second Assistant Engineer J. T. Smith, U. S. N., was obliged to defer his trip to Aiken, S. C., where he was to go for his health. His numerous friends in this city and in the navy will regret to learn of his prostration, and hope for his early restoration to health and usefulness to his country. He is now in comfortable quarters, and kindly cared for, at Culpeper, Virginia.

The Empress of Germany is one of the most simply dressed of women, except on occasions of ceremony. Her drygoods bills are said to be less than the wives of many of the merchants. She drives out in a calico dress. And the Princess Bismarck, fresh and comely, though past sixty, superintends her farm work, goes about the house with a great bunch of keys at her girdle, and her house is filled with knitted quilts and such, the evidence of her skill and industry.

Thomas U. Walter, our greatest classical architect, who designed the Capitol extension, Treasury extention dome, Girard college, and so forth, has become poor through the collapse of Pacific Mail stock, in which he had invested all his accumulations, and he is now a draughtsman for the Pennsylvania railroad at $1,800 a year. He has paid out of the Federal moneys more than $20,000,000. Still in the vigor of his powers, he should be the man to summon again when the Government needs such work as he can do.

RECORD OF CRIME.

During a fracas last night at Berlin, near Troy, N. Y., Matthew Casey shot two brothers named John and Orlow Rathbone. John was seriously and Orlow fatally injured.

Frederick Heidenhain was arraigned in Philadelphia yesterday for the murder of the German baker, George Kuhnil. The prisoner standing mute, the court directed the plea of not guilty to be entered, and his trial was fixed for the 19th instant. Mrs. Kuhnil, who was injured by the accused after the murder of her husband, is in a critical condition.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

F. S. Bacon, cashier of the Holyoke (Mass.) National Bank, is a defaulter to the amount of $4,870.

The United States steamer Ossipee, from Key West, passed Fort Monroe yesterday morning for Washington.

John Scudder's livery stable at Indianapolis was burned last night, together with 28 horses and 16 or 20 valuable carriages and buggies.

Mrs. Adeline Badger, principal of a large private school, and a member-elect of the Boston school committee, is missing, and it is believed she has committed suicide.

The tugboat Agnes collided with the ferryboat Mariner, at Locust Point, near Baltimore, yesterday, and August Kreater, aged fourteen, employed on the Agnes, was drowned.

The Connecticut Grand Lodge of Colored Masons organized in Hartford, Conn., yesterday, and the grand officers elected at the convention in New Haven last November were installed.

The United States steamer Powhatan, which has been coaling and receiving some necessary repairs at the Norfolk navy yard, dropped down to the Roads yesterday, and is anchored off the Fort.

The Vessel-owners' and Captains' Association of Philadelphia have adopted a medal for captains who perform meritorious acts by saving persons and property at sea. The medals will be in bronze, silver and gold.

Manager Fox, of the American Varieties theatre, Philadelphia, who was sued for non-payment of the State license, has been found guilty by the jury. This was a test case, and decides a number of other prosecutions against theatrical managers in this city.

FLASHES FROM THE CABLE.

The health of Emperor William continues to improve. He drove out yesterday.

The amount of bullion that went into the Bank of England on balance yesterday was £12,000.

The cholera and other diseases prevail to a fearful extent in the Dutch camp in Acheen. The native allies are the greatest sufferers.

The Catholics of Switzerland have sent a protest to the Government against the expulsion from the country of the Papal Nuncio.

THE ELEMENTS.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 7.—A severe storm of sleet prevails west of Pittsburg, and has prostrated all the wires, cutting off communication with Cincinnati, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Indianapolis, St. Louis, &c. Pittsburg reports the telegraph lines broken in many places.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Jan. 7.—A heavy rain storm and dense fog have prevailed along the Hudson all day. The mountain streams are much swollen, and freshets are probable. The weather to-night is warm, and it is still raining.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 7.—The rain storm which set in Sunday night in this locality continued today with increased severity. The Schuylkill river has begun to show the effects, and a freshet is apprehended.

CLINTON, Ill., Jan. 7.—At 10 o'clock to-night the snow changed to sleet and rain. The snow is eight inches deep. Communication between this city and the East is almost entirely cut off.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 7.—The storm last night prostrated all the telegraph lines leading out of this city but one. The sidewalks are everywhere covered with branches of trees broken down by the weight of ice collected on them.

EFFECT OF THE RAIN IN VIRGINIA.

RICHMOND, Jan. 7.—The continuous and general rain which has fallen during the past two days has caused an extraordinary rising of the Rappahannock, York, James and Pamunkey rivers. Special to the *Dispatch* report that the Ravanna at Chollottesville is higher than it has been since the great flood of 1870.

LYNCHBURG—The James was twelve feet above the usual level at 9 o'clock to-night, and still rising. The North River, at Lexington, is also very high. No serious damage has yet been reported. The James at this point has risen seven feet, and is still rising, with prospects of a considerable flood when the waters from above reach here.

FROM CUBA.

HAVANA, Jan. 7.—The *Legalidad* newspaper has suspended.

The strike of boatmen in this harbor has ended.

Senor Soler, ex-minister of the colonies, to-day left the palace and took quarters at a hotel.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1874—1 a. m.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England cloudy and threatening weather, with rain, and fresh to brisk northeasterly and southeasterly winds will prevail during the day. For the Middle States and the eastern portion of the lower lake region fresh to brisk northeasterly to southerly winds, with partly cloudy weather and areas of rain, probably clearing during the afternoon, winds shifting to westerly and colder in the lower temperature. For the South Atlantic and Eastern Gulf States continued low temperature, southeasterly to northwesterly winds and clear or fair weather. For Tennessee and the Ohio valley southwesterly to northwesterly winds, with low temperature and clear or clearing weather. For southern Michigan and thence southwestward to the lower Missouri valley clear or fair weather, with light to fresh southerly winds and but slight changes of temperature. Cautionary signals continue at New York, New Haven, New London, Wood's Holle, Boston, Portland and Gaspport. Freshets will occur in the rivers of central New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia

THE WEATHER IN WASHINGTON.

The following was the range of the thermometer yesterday at Hempler's optician store: 8 a. m., 59; 10 a. m., 62; 12 m., 65; 2 p. m., 68; 4 p. m., 65; 6 p. m., 62; 8 p. m., 60. Last year this day, 32.

CHINESE STEAMSHIP LINE.

[FROM the San Francisco Chronicle.]

The announcement by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, that hereafter but one steamer per month will be run on the Japan and China line, is not a pleasant one. Under the liberal rates of freight latterly established by the steamship company, our exports to China had greatly increased; in fact, the semi-monthly steamers were not adequate for the freight offerings, and at the present time there are hundreds of tons of flour and other merchandise awaiting shipment to China, which the steamer to sail on the 1st proximo, cannot accommodate. Among our merchants engaged in the China trade there is much dissatisfaction over the new dispensation, and the hope held out that the running of semi-monthly steamers will be resumed in June, when the new ten crop is ready for marketing, will do little toward abating that disappointment.

It is now nearly two years since the semi-monthly line was inaugurated. Its benefits have been felt not only by mercantile men, but by the entire community, for it greatly accelerated our commercial growth, and activity in that respect makes work plentiful, wages good and retail trade brisk.

Tea, sugar and rice are the great staples that we import from China, and since the inauguration of the semi-monthly line, trade has developed in a remarkable degree, especially in the articles of rice and sugar. In 1872 the latter, 23,970,000 pounds were imported from China in 1872, as against 3,482,488 pound in 1871, an increase of nearly 700 per cent. This is a wonderful increase, but it is nothing to what we would experience in the three great staples for the next two or three years, had we proper means of communication. Our local merchants are now beginning to acquire a foothold in the Atlantic States, the teas imported by them, Chicago and Milwaukee have been buying of us lately, and there is no doubt but that our tea merchants could very soon be able to send across the continent ten car-loads of tea where now they send but one.

This great and rapidly-growing trade in tea, sugar and rice would undoubtedly be seriously injured by the discontinuance of the semi-monthly steamers, but for the fact that the gap left by the Pacific Mail company will be promptly filled by an English line of steamers which will shortly begin regular trips between San Francisco and China. While this will probably serve our business requirements, it is rather depressing to our national pride. An American company, aided by a liberal subsidy from Congress, recede from a splendid commercial field, while an English company, standing upon its own bottom, steps in with full confidence of profit. Perhaps it is to be on the Pacific as on the Atlantic, where of eighteen steamship lines plying between this country and Europe but one is American.

IMMIGRATION STATISTICS.

History, in its records of the migrations of peoples, has no parallel to their immense immigration into this country during the fifty or one hundred years past. Previous to 1820 we have no accurate records, but as nearly as can be ascertained about 250,000 aliens came into our country up to that time. From 1820 to 1870 the increase each year has in the majority of cases been very marked, and if uniform would amount to about thirteen per cent. In 1943 the number of immigrants was 52,496. From that time it steadily increased until, in 1854, it reached 427,833. A diminution then began, reaching in 1861 the comparatively small number of 91,920. Then the number of immigrants grew larger again, the record for the last five years being: 1869, 298,922; 1870, 387,203; 1871, 352,466; 1872, 362,235; 1873, 330,616.

It is of interest to note that of all immigrants 64 per cent. were over twenty years of age and in the vigor of life. Since the establishment of the Board of Commissioners of Emigration in New York, on the 1st of May, 1847, there have passed through their care about five and a quarter millions of immigrants, or an average of about 200,000 a year. Of them 1,932,915 were from Ireland; 2,219,925 from Germany and Scandinavia, and 1,048,431 from other countries. It is noticeable, too, that where one German goes to the Eastern or manufacturing region, there go thirteen Irish; but where one Irish goes to the agricultural region of the Middle, Western and West Mississippi States, he is accompanied by three Germans. Less than four and-a-half in a hundred of Irish, and only six in a hundred of Germans, have made their homes south of the Potomac and Ohio.

Of the grand total of over eight and one half millions, 4,448,803 come from under the British flag, 3,028,559 were Teutonic, 485,095 were Latin, 24,964 Slavic, 110,260 Asiatic, and 460,000 from countries not specified. For the financial year ending June 30 last, the number of immigrants was larger than for any previous year, reaching the total of 459,803. It has been estimated by the superintendent at Castle Garden that each immigrant brings into the country an average of not less than $50 gold, which amounts to $444,300,000 brought to our shores up to the present time. This, in addition to the value of the labor of the immigrants, will show their worth to us.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Sweden, says: "Stockholm resembles Paris in one respect—its out-door *cafes*, its charming pleasure gardens, the vivacity and pleasure-seeking propensities of its people, and the general air of gaiety that pervades the city. But its streets are tortuous, narrow, and ill-paved; its shops are diminutive, and its indoor attractions, at least in summer time, very few. Politeness is here carried to extremes, many lengths. Hats off on passing acquaintances, hats off in addressing strangers, hats off upon entering a shop. There is no servility about the custom—it is simple politeness.

THE city of Haverhill, Mass., is now next to Lynn in the extent and value of its boot and shoe manufactures. In 1828 there were but 28 shoe manufactories in the city, which number had increased in 1837 to 43, and in 1850 to 100. The number now engaged in the manufacture and sale of boots, shoes and rubbers is about 300. The number of pairs of boots and shoes shipped in 1850 was 46,272; in 1855, 69,924; in 1860, 95,356, while the number in 1872 must have reached 200,000, at a valuation of nearly, if not quite, $6,000,000.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

THE ANNUAL LEVEE OF DE MOLAY COMMANDERY—A BRILLIANT ASSEMBLAGE PRESENT—HANDSOME DECORATIONS—THE DRILL AND THE DANCE.

The annual levee of the De Molay Commandery came off last night at the Masonic Temple. As early as 7:30 o'clock carriages began to arrive, and by eight o'clock the main hall was filled with a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen.

The general committee, composed of Sir J. P. Pearson, Eminent Commander; Sirs G. W. Balloch, Geo. H. Clark, R. D. Larner, W. P. Cerry, I. L. Johnson, C. L. Patton, R. P. Murray, H. Browning, L. G. Stephens, E. G. Wheeler, A. M. Daniels, L. Woodbury, E. H. Chapman, A. W. Kelley, Jos. Daniels, H. C. Bum, Gleason, C. A. Appel, John L. Weyl, J. G. Hleston, R. Crutchjr., Chas. H. Earl, M. M. Whitney, and L. Stoddard, made every arrangement conducive to the pleasure of their guests. They were subdivided into committees on decorations, reception, floor, supper, &c., all of which duties were fulfilled to the satisfaction of those to whom they referred. The hall was beautifully decorated and showed the work of skill and good judgment. The side walls were completely covered with bunting, representing the colors of all the nations, while those of one nation were prominently displayed at the east and west ends. These were tastefully over-looped with garlands of evergreens, and beneath, surrounded by wreaths, were the portraits of Grand Masters French, Whiting and Weightman, and the Grand Master of England, Earl De Grey, Marquis of Ripon.

At the east end of the hall was placed a raised platform, and at its back three handsome mirrors. In the centre was a handsome Maltese cross, and above in a semi-circle the words, "In hoc signo vincit." On the stage were handsome chairs for reception, reclining and conversation chairs and settees for the benefit of those not disposed to dance. To the right of the centre was a keystone with white back, and the emblematic letters H. T. W. S. S. T. K. S., tastefully worked in evergreen. To the front of the platform was a bower surrounded by choice and fragrant exotics, within which was a fountain, the sounds of the coming sent forth a jet of cologne. From the three chandeliers were suspended handsome hanging baskets filled with beautiful flowers, and inclosing cages of canaries, whose warblings were in sweet accord with the music of Donch's band. At the west end of the hall was displayed a prominent passion cross, and the name of the commandery was in evergreens, while above were suspended the banners of the commanderies of the District.

At nine o'clock the Sir Knights marched in and took their places, and have practised drill almost all day. The mountain streams are much swollen, and freshets are probable. The weather to-night is warm, and it is still raining.

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SUPPOSED SUICIDE.

A CITIZEN OF WASHINGTON FOUND HANGING TO A TREE IN VIRGINIA DEAD.

Yesterday about noon, as Mr. C. H. J. Linskey was hunting in Virginia, he discovered on the turnpike leading to Alexandria, about half a mile from the Aqueduct bridge, the body of a man, hanging to a tree by the neck, dead. He at once proceeded to police headquarters, where he gave the information, thinking it might be the body of Mr. A. Goldsmith, whose mysterious disappearance from this city has been noticed in the city papers.

On receiving this information Chief Detective Clarvoe telegraphed to Georgetown to Lieut. Hurley to send at once and ascertain if there was anything on the body by which it could be identified. An officer repaired to the scene, and found the body as described, and beside him, on the ground, was a piece of rope, attached to a broken twig, looking as though he had made a desperate effort to hang himself, but failed by the limb breaking. A search of his pockets was made, in which were found letters, a gold watch and a small amount of money. The letters revealed the fact that his name was Wm. Osborn, residing at No. 943 M street northwest. Information was sent to his people at the above number.

A daughter of the deceased immediately proceeded to the locality, when she recognized him as her father, and stated that he left his home December 16 for the purpose of going to Auburn, N. Y., since which time nothing has been heard of him. The coroner of the county viewed the body and ordered it to be cut down and removed to a house near by, where the inquest will be held. The deceased is about sixty years of age, and leaves three daughters.

POLICE COURT.

"WHAT'S THE USE

of having a wife if she don't do nothing?" exclaimed Thomas Brown, upon being arraigned before Judge Snell yesterday, charged with beating his wife, Matilda, for indolence. From the testimony presented, it appears that Thomas works hard all day, and returns to his domicile at night, tired, worn, cross, to find that she has fire out, victuals cold, and his wife, Matilda, stowed snugly away in bed. Thomas had been many times thus sorely tried, and found wanting in courage to redress the grievous wrong, but Tuesday's rain and the dyspepsia found him in an altogether different mood, and Matilda in bed, as usual. He surveyed her for a moment, and then launched himself on to the bed for the purpose of bringing Mrs. Brown to a sense of her responsibility as wife and helpmate. She came out of the couch on a horizontal, feet first, and on elevated to a perfectly upright position by Brown's uneasy brats, she, too, declared, had waged war upon by seizing an assortment of household furniture, the which she showered upon the head of her lord and master. Thereupon he was so moved as to create in Brown an excusable dislike for his wife's presence. Brown was instructed by the court that when he took Matilda for his wife it was for the purpose of living with her, evidently satisfied that it was for the worse, received the sentence of $20 and costs with some agitation and the remark that "the fine is more'n he did thing's worth."

HENRY YOUNG'S WIFE

got the better of him in their little "unpleasantness" Tuesday evening. As he appeared in court yesterday, one of his eyes looked as though it had been bruised in a contest with a very mad pile-driver recently, and his general appearance was that of having roughly passed through the domestic "mill." It seems that Officers Dailey and Talton heard the sound of "unpleasantness" at Young's house, and on arriving at the premises they found Mrs. Young in a terrible state of excitement. She told them that her husband had threatened her life, and attempted to do her personal violence with a pistol. Having said this she rushed up stairs, seized her wardrobe, and was about to separate herself from Henry's bed and board forever, when the officers came in and stop the rash proceedings of his angry wife, only to be met half-way by the raging Mary, who planted three full-grown finger nails in Henry's right eye, nearly knocking it from its socket. The officers arrested both of the parties and brought them into court, where they were fined $10 each and costs.

Several other cases of assault and battery, larceny, and vagrancy were disposed of by the court.

FIRE COMMISSIONERS IN COUNCIL.

Last night the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held at the Morrison building, six members being present. The minutes of the preceding meeting were then read and approved.

The chief engineer submitted his report for December, 1873, which showed that there were 19 alarms during the month, involving a loss of $3,700, with an insurance of $2,900. There were also seven slight fires, for which no alarms were turned in.

Superintendent Miles then submitted a statement, showing the completion of his special repairs, together with the change of boxes as ordered by the board.

The secretary read a communication from the Governor's office, directing that a statement of the time for which pay was due a private detailed from the Fire Department be delivered, in order that he might realize his pay thereon. The order has been complied with.

Mr. Morgan then offered a resolution providing for the employment of a competent engineer, at a salary not to exceed $75 per month, to be paid out of the contingent fund until otherwise provided for.

On motion of Commissioner Collins, the rate of pay was fixed at $60 per month, and the resolution was adopted.

On motion, the president was directed to lay the case of amount due Mr. Gates, for hose bought on four months' credit, now overdue, before the Governor to arrange its payment.

The secretary was directed to prepare a statement showing the expenditures of the Fire Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, and lay the same before the Governor for transmittal to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be submitted to Congress among the deficiencies for appropriation of the money.

The secretary was directed to prepare a statement of the outstanding indebtedness of the board, to be submitted to the Governor.

A special meeting of the board was ordered to be held on Monday night next to consider the communication just presented by Mr. Morgan.

Commissioner Morgan called up his amendment to rule No. 16 of the fire department, requiring the title and rank of the foremen of the companies to be painted on the panels of their hose carriages, and forbidding the use of familiar or nicknames.

After discussion by Commissioners Thomas, Morgan, Reed and Collins, the amendment offered by Mr. Morgan was adopted by a vote in which Commissioner Thomas only dissented.

Applications for appointment in the fire department, from the following-named parties, were announced: Geo. F. Encklen, Wm. B. Miller, John Hammond, Henry Hatcher, John Gray.

The board then went into committee of the whole on the report of examination of the department.

RECOVERY OF DR. H. T. PAYNE'S BODY.

Yesterday morning the body of Dr. Howard T. Payne, who was drowned above Georgetown on the Sunday before Christmas, was recovered near the place where the accident occurred. The body was recovered by two fishermen, named Charles Nicholson and Joseph Blackburn. The coroner has been notified.

A NEW FEATURE.

Mr. E. L. Ives, the well-known and exceedingly successful cutter and fitter, will open his new place of business, No. 418 Thirteenth street, formerly kept by Leach, Tailor, this evening with a social opening, to which he invites all of his friends; also, the press of the District are respectfully invited. Mr. Ives has a large and carefully selected stock of the finest cloths and furnishings, which he will be glad to show his customers on that occasion.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK,

corner of New York avenue and Fifteenth street, pays 6 per cent. interest 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 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.

Take warning from the Chicago and Boston fires.

KEEP OUT OF THE COLD.

Go to Savage's and get him to put his unrivaled weather-strip on your windows and doors. Many are now convinced, and advise their friends to go and do likewise. JOS. L. SAVAGE,
Pennsylvania avenue and Tenth street.

MASSEY'S PHILADELPHIA ALE

is the only domestic ale sold by the leading hotels and restaurants in the District. The reason is that no other domestic ale equals it either in strength or flavor. Families supplied with half or quarter barrels and faucets loaned by Palmer & Green, 57 Greene street, Georgetown, D. C.

THE COURTS.

CIRCUIT COURT—JUSTICE MACARTHUR.

This court was engaged as follows, yesterday:

Caspar Winder vs. Charles E. Hulse. The defendant was called and judgment entered for the plaintiff.

Polemus & Co. vs. Isaac Litton. Judgment confessed for $608.84.

Cochran vs. Boucher & White. Judgment confessed for $103.32.

F. Y. Fenwick vs. A. B. Mullett. Non-suit entered.

CASES TO-DAY.

The following cases are assigned for trial today: Nos. 214, 218, 218, 218, 220, 224, 225, 227, 228, 229, 230, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243 and 244. Adjourned.

SPECIAL TERM—CHIEF JUSTICE CARTTER.

This court made the following orders yesterday: Lawrence vs. Lawrence. Order extending for ten days the time for taking testimony.

Huguely vs. McCollum. Order for final ratification of sale and of referees to assistor.

Lucket vs. Mackey et al. and Pratt vs. Estis. Order taking bill for confessed as to absent defendant.

Robbins vs. Lewis. Decree substituting W. H. Gordon as trustee in lieu of S. T. Lewis.

Howes vs. Humes. Decree for final ratification of trustee's sale.

Canline et al. vs. Harkness et al. Order for the giving of injunction bond or dissolution of restraining order. Adjourned.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 7, 1874.

On motion of Mr. P. Phillips John H. McNurdy, esq., of Georgetown, Colorado, was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor of this court.

No. 50. William Minor, jr., plaintiff in error, vs. The Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad Company. The argument of this cause was continued by Mr. E. Saulsbury, of counsel for the defendant in error, and concluded by Mr. J. P. Comegys for the plaintiff in error.

No. 172. John K. Tilney, surviving trustee, plaintiff in error, vs. The National Bank of the State of Missouri. This cause was argued by Mr. Samuel Knox, of counsel for the plaintiff in error, and submitted on printed arguments by Mr. Jos. O. Broadhead for the defendant in error.

175. John K. Tilney, surviving trustee, appellant, vs. The Boatman's Saving Institution. The argument of this cause was commenced by Mr. Samuel Knox, of counsel for appellant, and continued by Mr. Thos. N. Grant for the appellee.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

The serenade to Hon. R. B. Elliott, of South Carolina, has been postponed until Saturday evening, at 9 o'clock.

Judge Cartter, during the December term of the Criminal Court, imposed on liquor cases fines to the amount of $10,000.

Louse alley has won the "banner of crime," by sending more representatives to the Police Court last year than any street in the city.

Eight sail-makers and twenty-five laborers were discharged from the department of equipment and recruiting on yesterday afternoon.

At the twentieth regular monthly meeting of the North Washington Building Association held last Tuesday evening twenty shares were advanced upon at an average of 50 per cent.

The work on the new ship Nipsic, now being built at the navy yard, is progressing rapidly. About half her framework is up, and a portion of the port side of the deck and other timbers are in shape, to be put in position when the frame is finished.

On Tuesday afternoon, about 5 o'clock, a little child of Thomas Stone, residing at No. 1005 Seventh street northwest, accidentally upset a coal-oil lamp and set the furniture of the room on fire. It was extinguished by Lieutenant Noonan and the neighbors without an alarm being sounded.

About 1 o'clock yesterday morning Officer Latkey found the front door of O. M. Tompkins' residence, on Fourth street, between Louisiana avenue and E street, open. He aroused the family and had it secured. On making an examination a quantity of clothing was found to be missing.

The members of Columbia R. A. Chapter, No. 1, last evening presented Past High Priest J. H. Cochran, with a handsome Past High Priest's jewel. It is made of solid gold and studded with diamonds, and is emblematic of the office which for the past year he has filled with dignity and ability.

The following transfers of real estate have been made since last report: Ross Tighlman to Eva R. Meyer, lot 4, square 811, $700; John T. Lenman to Jacob A. Walker, lot 1, square north of square 772, $10; Robert Armour to Hiram W. Jackson, lot 18, square 134, $1,600; Thos. Gassaway to Jas. N. Smith, lot 11, square 77, $3,500; Alfred Cartwright et ux. to Julia Cartwright, "consideration love and affection and $5 half part lot 63, in Holmead's addition to Georgetown; Wm. W. Goddard to Thos. H. Williams, lot lettered G, square 157, $203.

AMUSEMENTS.

"FAUST" AT THE NATIONAL.

The opera of "Faust," which has made the composer, Gounod, famous, is so well known that it needs but a passing notice. The subject is decidedly German, and is drawn from Goetho's beautiful poem. It bears a good moral, showing the machinations of the devil, the evil results of sin and the final victory over the Evil One by the pure and good.

The production of many delightful performances of this opera here, the great popularity of the opera itself and the attractive cast, were sufficient to fill the National to its utmost capacity. Every seat and every available standing place was occupied.

Miss Kellogg as Marguerite did not quite meet our expectations. As the simple German girl, at the spinning-wheel and in the village garden she looks and acts the character well, but in the fourth act, where Valentine declares her his murderer and heaps curses upon her, she seems to lack the power to impress her grief and mortification. The last scene, in the prison, was, perhaps, the most effective of all. We must honestly say that we believe Miss Kellogg's powers better adapted to a different class, a lighter class of opera.

Habelman, as Faust, was conscientious in action and vocalization, and we were pleased to observe that his part was not indicated by a supposed idea that he was able to render his music without effort. Mrs. Seguin, who has a charming presence and manner, and many admiring friends, gave the part of Siebel for several years, and, if Mr. Peake's Mephistopheles we cannot say much in favor. His action was good, but his singing bad. A great deal of culture would make a singer of him, for he has a good natural voice.

Mr. Carleton made a good impression as Valentine.

The stage appointments and the costumes were superior to anything we have heretofore seen in this opera here. The chorus and orchestra did well in the main. But it could not be so to others.

That evening Mr. Buffer was just sitting down to tea (Buffer was a plain, old-fashioned man, and took tea at 6) when his door-bell was rung. The servant announced that a man was at the door with a dog to sell.

"Tell him I don't want one."

Six times Buffer was interrupted while taking tea by men with dogs to sell. Buffer was a man who would not lie. He had put his foot in, and he must take it out manfully. The twenty-third applicant was a small boy, with a girl in company, who had a ragged, dirty poodle for sale. Buffer bought the poodle of the boy, and immediately presented it to the girl, and then sent them off.

To the next applicant he was able truthfully to answer, "Don't want any more. I have bought one."

The stream of callers continued until pear 10 o'clock, at which hour Buffer locked up and turned off the gas.

On the following evening, as Buffer approached his house, he found a crowd assembled. He counted thirty-nine men and boys, each one of whom had a dog in tow. There were dogs of every grade, size and color, and dogs of every quality of whine, yelp, bark, growl and howl. Buffer addressed the motley multitude and informed them that he had purchased a dog.

"Then what d'yer advertise for?"

And Buffer got his hat knocked over his eyes before he reached the sanctuary of his home.

Never mind about the trials and tribulations of that night. Buffer had had no idea that there were so many dogs in existence. With the aid of three policemen he got through alive. On the next morning he visited his friend, the editor, and acknowledged the corn. The advertisement of "wanted" was taken out, and in the most conspicuous place, and in glaring type, he advertised that he didn't want any more dogs. And for the advertisement he paid. Then he went home, and posted upon his door—"Gone into the country." Then he hired a special policeman to guard his property, and then he locked up and went away with his family.

From that day Josephus Buffer has never been heard to express doubts concerning the efficacy of printer's ink; neither has he asked, "Who reads advertisements?"

ROOLES FOR PLAYEN ONTO A ORGAN IN MEETING.

When the prescher comes in and seals down in