THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD LAST NIGHT.

CHANGES IN THE GRADES OF SCHOOLS—ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS—NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED—STATEMENT OF EXPENSES—A BUREAU OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDED.

A special meeting of the Board of School Trustees was held last night. Present, Messrs. Curtis, Brooks, French, Smith, Brown, Packard, Johnson, Hart, Dyer, Lovey, Lloyd, Champlin, Moffat, Woodward, Patrick and Superintendent Wilson.

The secretary read a communication from the District Commissioners, setting forth that they had contracted for the use of the lot on I street, between Second and Third streets northwest, belonging to Gen. Robert Williams, for the purposes of a school play-ground, from August 31, 1874, to August 31, 1875, at an annual rental of $300, payable quarterly. Filed.

Several bills were presented and referred to the committee on accounts.

The special committee appointed to prepare a report to be presented to the District Commissioners submitted the following:

The whole number of pupils enrolled in the public schools of the District of Columbia for the school-year ending August 31, 1874, was as follows: White, 11,812; colored, 6,327; total, 17,839. The whole number of teachers employed was 374. The average number of pupils enrolled in private schools during the same period was 6,933. Estimated number of pupils that will be enrolled in the public schools during the school-year ending August 31, 1875, 19,000. The number of youth of school age (6 to 17, inclusive) in the District of Columbia, according to the United States census of 1870, was: White, 25,177; colored, 10,404; total, 35,571. In 1864 the whole number of pupils enrolled in all the public schools of the District of Columbia was about 5,000, and of this number the colored pupils did not exceed 200.

About 4,000 children are now compelled to attend schools in rented rooms, most of which are not well adapted to the purpose, and many are badly lighted and ventilated, damp and unhealthy. For these rooms, 68 in number, an annual rent of about $20,600 is paid, and in addition a large sum is expended in fitting up and repairing them. To purchase sites and erect suitable plain but substantial buildings, to meet the present wants of the public schools of the District, will require an expenditure of $500,000.

STATEMENT AND ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES.

The following statement and estimate of expenses is submitted:

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874:

Salaries of teachers, officers and janitors	$222,574 78
Rent of school rooms	14,692 76
Contingent expenses, including fuel, stove fixtures, books, stationery, house furnishing goods, repairs, printing annual report, blanks, &c., gas, night work, insurance, medals, diplomas, &c.	73,785 26
School furniture	1,042 70
Total	$312,095 60

From July 1 to November 30, 1874:

Salaries of teachers, officers and janitors	$59,300 00
Rent of school rooms	7,802 16
Contingent expenses, including fuel, stove fixtures, books, stationery, house furnishing goods, repairs, gas, advertising, printing, insurance, partly estimated	35,600 83
New furniture	3,893 58
Total	$106,602 57

From December 1, 1874, to June 30, 1875:

Salaries of teachers, officers and janitors	$180,000 00
Rent of school rooms	19,022 00
Contingent expenses, including fuel, books, stationery, house furnishing goods, repairs, printing annual report, blanks, &c., medals, diplomas, gas, night work, insurance, &c.	55,000 00
New furniture. (Georgetown schools)	6,000 00
Total	$260,022 00

For the school year commencing July 1, 1875, and ending June 30, 1876:

Salaries of teachers, officers and janitors	$265,000 00
Rent of school rooms	22,000 00
Contingent expenses, including fuel, stove fixtures, books, stationery, house furnishing goods, repairs, printing annual report, minutes, blanks, medals, diplomas, gas, night work, insurance, &c.	90,000 00
New furniture	6,000 00
Total	$383,000 00

REASONS FOR CONGRESSIONAL AID.

The reasons for asking Congress to aid in establishing and supporting a system of public schools for the District of Columbia may be briefly stated as follows:

1. About one third of the school population is colored, composed largely of the "wards of the nation" who have come into the District during and since the war. They add but little if anything to the school revenues.

2. About thirty per cent. of the enrollment in the white schools is composed of children whose parents or guardians are in the employ of the United States Government, and the school revenues receive but little benefit from these residents.

3. The United States Government is the owner of all the real estate in the District of Columbia.

4. The Government has 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 became States. The District of Columbia, the permanent seat of the Government, over which Congress exercises exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, has had no share in the distribution of these educational benefactions.

PRESENT CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

In considering the future government of the schools the committee has not lost sight of their present condition.

There are now in the District white and colored city and country schools, and these conditions must be regarded in any uniform system of organization for their management. The committee therefore recommend a general board of education for the District of Columbia, which shall exercise a general and uniform control over all the schools, and have power to create such school districts and subordinate boards of trustees to attend to the local duties of these districts, as the conditions above alluded to may require.

NEW SCHOOL DISTRICTS RECOMMENDED.

The following outline of such an organization is therefore suggested: A board of education for the District of Columbia, to consist of seven members, to be appointed by the Executive of said District and be selected from the three classes—the first and second classes to consist of two members each, and the third class of three members—one class to be appointed each year, and the term of office to be three years. The board of education to have full control of all public school property, and of all funds collected or appropriated for public schools in the District of Columbia, and to have power to appoint a secretary, at a salary of not exceeding $1,500 per annum, and a messenger, in addition to his other duties, to make the disbursements and keep the accounts of the board; to continue and establish schools for the free education of all youth of school age resident within the District of Columbia; to fix the number and salaries of teachers and decide upon their qualifications; and to confirm the appointments of all teachers and remove them at pleasure; to fix the number and salaries of janitors and other employees; to make proper rules and regulations for the government of the schools, prescribe a course of study and adopt text-books for the same; to appoint superintendents of schools, one of whom shall be assigned to the colored schools of Washington and Georgetown; to divide the District of Columbia into school districts, the colored schools of Washington and Georgetown forming one district, and to appoint in each district officers, to be designated trustees, who shall have charge of the schools in their respective districts, and perform such duties as may be prescribed by the board; to cause to be taken, once in two years, an enumeration of all unmarried youth, including race, sex and age of said youth, between six and twenty-one years of age, inclusive.

It should be the duty of the board of education to disburse all funds appropriated for the use of the public schools of the District of Columbia, so that the schools for the colored children shall receive such a proportionate part of all moneys received or expended for public school or educational purposes, including the cost of sites, buildings, furniture, books, and all other expenditures, as the amount of such children shall bear to the ages of six and sixteen years inclusive, in the District of Columbia, bear to the whole number of children white and colored between the same ages; and no discrimination shall be made in respect to the time when payments to white and colored schools shall be made; to annually make the executive of the District of Columbia a full report of their proceedings for the preceding year, rendering a full account of the condition of the schools and the expenditures for the same and giving an estimate in detail of the amount of funds required during the next succeeding school year, and to furnish such information as may be required from time to time by the executive of the District.

W. W. CURTIS,
CHAS. E. HOOVEY,
A. HART,
J. S. BROWN,
HENRY JOHNSON,
E. CHAMPLIN.

Mr. Dyer moved that the report be adopted unanimously.

Mr. Woodward could not agree with Mr. Dyer.

Mr. Lloyd opposed that portion of the report which referred to the board of education, and offered as an amendment that the District of Columbia be divided into school districts, and that trustees be appointed to attend to the local duties of said school districts, and that the colored schools of the District of Columbia be made and constituted one of said school districts; that there shall be organized a board of education, to be composed of seven members from each school district, to be selected by a majority vote of each respective school district.

The amendment was lost, and the report was adopted.

Mr. French, from the sub-board of the Third district, made the following recommendations; which were adopted: Change the name of Secondary school No. 1 to Male Intermediate No. 4; Secondary No. 2 to Female Intermediate No. 4; Secondary No. 9 to Secondary No. 1; Secondary No. 4 to Secondary No. 2; Secondary No. 5 to Secondary No. 4; Secondary No. 8 to Secondary No. 6; Secondary No. 11 to Secondary No. 7; Secondary No. 10 to Secondary No. 8; Secondary No. 7 to Secondary No. 9; Secondary No. 12 to Secondary No. 10.

Mr. Lloyd, from the sub-board of the Fourth district, reported the following changes: Secondary school No. 4 to Female Intermediate No. 4; Secondary No. 6 to Secondary No. 5; Primary No. 2 to Secondary No. 6; Primary No. 6 to Secondary No. 2; Primary No. 15 to Secondary No. 6.

Mr. Woodward was excused from being chairman of the committee on legislation, and the chair was appointed in his place.

The board then adjourned.

A COLD IN THE HEAD.

Life is but an empty show—a hollow mockery—to the man with a cold in the head. He is naturally ever so ambitious and energetic, when thus afflicted he resigns only to sit by the fire and meditate—and wipe his nose. Every bone in his body aches, he loses his appetite and his head feels as though it were as large as a cake of cookery and about as heavy. He has not little inclination to carry on a conversation, or to hear others talk, but would rather travel to some secluded spot with a dozen or so fresh handkerchiefs and there ponder, enwrapped in his misery.

TYPE-SETTING TOURNEY.

SKETCHES OF THE DIFFERENT CONTESTANTS.

THE LOCAL EXCITEMENT—EXPLANATION OF TERMS—THE NUMBER ALREADY ENTERED—INTERESTING INFORMATION—CREDIT TO WHOM CREDIT IS DUE.

Perhaps it is well right here to correct one or two errors which the uninitiated in the art and mystery of printing have naturally fallen into in regard to the great type-setting tournament to take place in Washington the 5th of December next. The "sticks" offered as prizes are not gold-headed and silver-headed canes. The composing instrument used by printers is called a "stick" in their parlance, and, as far as we know, a solid gold one, full newspaper size, has never been made nor before offered as a prize. The intrinsic value will be very considerable, to say nothing of the great honor that will attach to the printer's name who wins it.

Messrs. James McCafferty and Chris. Fechtig are entitled to much credit for the energy they have shown in pushing the tournament forward to success.

Acknowledgment is made of a contribution of $5 from Mr. Henry Smith, the well-known cigar dealer, 1205 Pennsylvania avenue, toward the purchase of prizes for the coming typographical tournament. Henry's is a favorite resort of the members of the craft, and this assurance of his regard will not be forgotten by them.

An earnest appeal is made to all printers who propose to enter either the first or second class to come to the front at once and enter their names. This is really due to outside people, who for many reasons may wish to form an intelligent opinion as to merits.

All printers wishing to enter can do so by calling and leaving or sending their names and address to either James McCafferty, office of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, Chris Fechtig, of the *Star*, or L. H. Patterson, Government printing office.

In all the printing offices of the city this tournament is the one chief topic of conversation, and though it would be interesting it is hardly the thing to point out at this time anything in particular that is said, especially about the merits of the different contestants, so far as their names are known, but this much may be said. It is a pretty well settled fact that the printers are taking broad views of the whole affair and feel that, as well as local, it has a national aspect. The five hundred printers here are representatives of nearly all the States, and it is quite safe to say that the States which will be represented in the tournament have not within their borders typesetters as fast as those now working here who will contend for the honors. Be that as it may, the winner of the gold stick will be a man of whom his State or District may be proud.

SKETCHES OF THE CONTESTANTS.

Everything pertaining to this grand affair is of sharp and peculiar interest. The community naturally wish to know something of the personal history of these knights of the stick—these Dexters. Tom Hughes, Longfellows, Fellowcrafts, Jay Goulds, Joe Daniels, Thad. Stevenses and Harry Bassetts in the type-setting races.

SPENCER N. BENNERMAN.

This distinguished member of the great printing profession was born in the city of Philadelphia in 1838, and is consequently thirty-six years of age. In early life he was apprenticed to Mr. C. Sherman, the most extensive book printer in that city, and was educated by him in every branch of the profession. At the age of twenty-one he was engaged by the firm of E. Johnson & Co., type founders, as salesman, which position he held for six months, when he resigned to take the foremanship of Robb, Pile & McElroy's office. He left this office to go back to the stick out of the case, and enlisted in the Baxter Zouaves, when, after nearly three years' service, (and suffering during the latter part from typhoid fever in the hospital at Fortress Monroe,) he was detailed in the War Department, and enlisted in the regular army.

Shortly after the establishment of the Adjutant General's printing office he was appointed foreman, which position he finally resigned to conduct a temperance newspaper. The latter venture lasted only six months, and he then found himself appointed to the position of assistant foreman of the *Daily Chronicle*, of this city, and then in six months as foreman, holding the latter position for three years. Resigning this office on account of its debilitating effects upon his system, he was appointed foreman of the *Sunday Chronicle*. In one year after this the proprietors of these two newspapers dissolved partnership, and then he wended his way back to the *Daily Chronicle*, where he is now employed as "maker up." As a type-setter he is known to be one of the fastest and cleanest in Washington, and as a gentleman he is universally respected for sterling worth among his associates and friends. Mr. Bennerman will contend in the first class.

FRANCIS U. STITT.

This conspicuous name in the annals of the "art preservative of art," is now a silent reader in the Government printing office. He has set but little type in the last fifteen years, having been for some years the pardon clerk in the Attorney General's office, and since then he has followed the profession of proof-reading, but his old record in Tennessee as a rapid manipulator of type has clung to him, and at the instance of his friends he has entered his name as a contestant in this race, and he will demonstrate to the new generation of printers that rapidity and correctness once acquired is never lost.

Mr. Stitt was born in Philadelphia, but early in life emigrated to Tennessee, and worked at his profession in the city of Nashville. He was obliged to leave the State on account of his devotion to the Union, and he became a protege of Abraham Lincoln, whose friendship he preserved till the death of the great President. By an error we are unable to state this morning whether or not Mr. Stitt's name is entered in the first class.

WILLIAM W. MCCOLLUM.

Mr. McCollum is a native of Baltimore, and the Monumental City has never given to the profession of printing a workman more respected. He was born there in 1846, and is now twenty-eight years of age. At an early age he removed to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, where he served his time as an apprentice in the office of the "Central Press," of which paper Wien Forney was editor. After this he worked at the printing business in the office of King & Baird and Sherman & Co., Philadelphia, and in the Government printing office. He also held a situation on the old "National Intelligencer," (peace to its manes,) in this city, for three years, and he worked on the "Daily Patriot," also in Washington, up to the time of its suspension. He has also worked in Cumberland, Ohio, and in Charleston, S. C.

His name is entered in the first class, and though he has never participated in a similar race before, he has engaged in friendly contests, and has made a record of sixteen hundred ems solid nonpareil in sixty minutes, and it is no uncommon thing for him to overrun from fifteen to sixteen hundred ems per hour all night long, taking the "run of the hook." On one occasion Mr. McCollum set thirteen thousand nine hundred ems in nine hours, all solid nonpareil with the exception of fifteen hundred ems, which was leaded. The characteristics of Mr. McCollum as a printer are steadiness, nerve, precision and endurance.

RICHARD A. M'LEAN.

This celebrated name among fast type setters is, of course, entered in the first class, and the opinion of a good many well judging men is not at fault he will walk off with the golden prize. Mr. McLean is a compositor on the *Evening Star*, and is about twenty years of age. Now he serves his apprenticeship in the *Evening Star* office, after which he removed to Philadelphia and worked for a period of three years in the *Evening Telegraph* and "Sunday Mail" offices of the *Public Ledger* and *North American*. In 1871 he contested in the office of the *Day*, with the noted George Arensburg, for the first prize awarded by Mr. Menamin—a silver composing stick.

In this tournament he made a record of 1,657 ems solid nonpareil in one hour. Although he failed to win the prize, his fellow-compositors at once gave him a distinguished position in the fraternity. After that he returned to Washington, and since then has held a situation in the *Star* office continuously.

J. E. WOLFE.

Mr. Wolfe belongs to the Government printing office, and his name is entered as a contestant in the first class. He was born at Hampton, Adams county, Pennsylvania, in 1849, and received a common-school education. He served his apprenticeship at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in the office of the "Volunteer." After that he worked on the Hanover "Citizen," Pennsylvania, the "Waverly Advocate," New York, the "Athens Gazette," Pennsylvania, and in the office of the "Tioga Item," Pennsylvania. He was foreman of the "Gazette" and "Item" offices, and he worked thousands of newspapers on the first hand-press Brick Pomeroy ever owned.

Mr. Wolfe came to Washington in December, 1873, and since then has held a position in the Government Printing Office, in the "piece department." There he is known to be useful, hence he has had no practice in setting Nonpareil, but he enjoys a splendid reputation for getting up some of the best bills ever known in this city. Mr. Wolfe is a married man, and is greatly appreciated by all who enjoy his acquaintance. He is one of the modest, silent creepers, but he will run in the race like a vine.

E. A. FORSEMAN.

Mr. Forseman, whose name is entered in the second-class, was born in 1856, at Circleville, Ohio. He came to Washington in 1869, and has been employed in the Government Printing Office ever since, and is now engaged in the document room of that institution. He served his apprenticeship at Chillicothe, in the office of the *Weekly Crescent*. He then worked on the *State Journal* at Madison, Wis., for two years. Mr. Forseman has a most excellent reputation as a fast printer.

FRANK A. M'GILL.

Mr. McGill, whose name is entered in the second class, was born in Philadelphia, February 2, 1850, and he was educated in its public schools. He commenced his apprenticeship in 1868 with Mr. G. W. Serviss, and finished it on the "Constitutional Union," of this city. Then, in Florence, editor and proprietor. He worked for a short time in Philadelphia, and returning to Washington, he worked for the last three years on THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN. His reputation as a fast type-setter is excellent, and though he has never been in a contest of this kind before, it is believed by those best able to judge that he will bear himself with coolness, courage and nerve.

FRANK C. O'NEILL.

Mr. O'Neill (better known as Charley) is a name entered in the first class, and is ranked as one of the first in choice. He was born in Lancaster, Pa., January 24, 1842. He served his apprenticeship on the "Lancaster Intelligencer," then a weekly newspaper, but now one of the leading daily Democratic journals of that State. He has worked at his profession in all the newspapers of his native city, in those of Pittsburg, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and in almost all the offices in Washington, but for the past ten years Mr. O'Neill has been employed on THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN. He was its assistant foreman for two years, and for the past eight months he has been the foreman.

Mr. O'Neill was educated at St. Michael's Seminary, Pittsburg. In June, 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Reserves, and in December, 1861, he was promoted to a lieutenancy in the 84th Pennsylvania volunteers, and he was with the "storied one," Frederick W. Lander when he died at Fawpaw Tunnel too early in the war. He was married in 1867 to a most estimable lady, but she died in eighteen months. Mr. O'Neill has never been engaged in an organized or price contest, but his work "from the hook" has generally averaged over fourteen hundred ems solid nonpareil per hour.

His style is remarkable for its easy, rapid motion. He makes no false motions, and every movement deposits a type with regularity and precision. He is cool, calm and confident at the case, and has thorough knowledge of the art. These well-known qualities make his name a favorite one I call discussions on the subject.

JOHN M. RICHARDS.

In this grand tourney the Empire State will be most ably represented by Mr. John M. Richards, whose name is entered in the first class. He was born in Cortland county, N. Y., in 1842, and, consequently, is thirty-two years of age. He served his apprenticeship in the office of the Oneanga *Union*, Norwich, N. Y. Mr. Richards came to Washington in 1863, and here he has worked on the old *National Intelligencer* four years; on the *Evening Express* for a short time; on the *Daily Patriot* for two years, and was foreman of the office the last year of its life. Shortly after the suspension of the *Patriot* he took a situation on THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, which he has held ever since, and is now the assistant foreman of that office.

Mr. Richards was never engaged in a contest of this kind, nor, in fact, in any friendly match, but he has been known to the fraternity in Washington as a very fast type-setter, and one who has made astonishingly large bills. His style is marked by method and exactness, and every movement tells something in his favor. He spends no time in sawing the air while putting type in his stick. He is very likely to be a troublesome customer.

REMARKS.

It is not from choice that sketches of the lives of other contestants are omitted this morning. As fast as the necessary information can be obtained it will be written up and printed.

DISTRICT SAFE BURGLARY.

THE PROCEEDINGS IN COURT YESTERDAY.

The Criminal Court, Mr. Justice Humphreys, opened its usual session for the trial of the safe burglary conspiracy case, at 11 o'clock yesterday.

Mr. Henkle requested that the jury might be withdrawn, as he had something to say.

The jury were sent out.

Meanwhile Mr. Davidge announced to the Court that he was not able to go on with his argument for the defence this morning. He said the protracted trial has at length had an effect upon his physical attention, and he did not feel able to proceed at this time with justice to his client, but if the Court required it he could proceed.

Mr. Riddle desired to know if some other of the counsel could not go on now.

Mr. Smithers said he could only do so with a chance or doing injustice to his client.

The Court said this was a case of too much importance to allow the court to be deprived of the counsel of any of the able counsel for the defence. Sickness and prostration were accidents likely to occur on such a long case as this, and delays growing out of this were not the fault of the court or counsel. He intended to pursue this case with deliberation. He did not intend to force the Government to argument at the fag end of a week, and he would hold no court on Saturday. The case would be adjourned until to-morrow.

Mr. Hinkle made an application for leave to Col. Whitley to be absent on a visit to his family. He said Col. Whitley's wife was sick, and that no possible harm could ensue from his absence, as his bail would still hold good.

Mr. Riddle saw no reason why the request should not be granted. The offence charged was only a misdemeanor.

The Court then directed that Whitley be allowed to absent himself until Tuesday next.

THE POLICE COURT CONTEMPT.

Meanwhile Mr. Henkle said that, as suggested by the Court yesterday, he had moved to withdraw the return of Whitley to the summons of the court in the case of alleged contempt, in causing the arrest of Michael Hayes.

The Court directed that the withdrawal be permitted, and Whitley in person filed the following return:

"In the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, holding a criminal term, November 19, 1874, Hiram C. Whitley, for return to the rule served upon him on the 17th instant, issuing from this honorable court, respectfully shows: That on the 5th day of November, 1874, the date of the affidavit referred to in the rule, and upon which a warrant was granted for the apprehension of one Michael Hayes, who had testified on the 28th day of October, 1874, in a case then pending before this honorable court, and that he made the said affidavit after consultation with and upon the advice of his co-defendant, Richard Harrington, who informed this relator, Hiram C. Whitley, that Harrington, was acting under advice of his counsel, and that at the time of making this said affidavit he, the said Hiram C. Whitley, understood that in the arrest of the said Michael Hayes would be tried the cause then pending and undetermined before this honorable court should have been fully concluded; that he had no knowledge of the arrest of the said Hayes until after the same had been made, and had not the remotest intention of bringing himself into contempt of this honorable court, and having fully answered, he most respectfully submits himself to the judgment of the honorable court.

"H. C. WHITLEY.

"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th of November, 1874.

"R. J. MEIGS, Clerk.
"By E. J. MIDDLETON,
"Assistant Clerk."

The Court said it would consider the matter further, and adjourned until this morning at 11 o'clock.

POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENSES REFUSED.

At a meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held yesterday the following applications for liquor licenses were disapproved: Mrs. Rosa Eisenbeis, Samuel Beamer, Jno. Schlotterbeck, Cornelius Shea, John P. Rogers, Louis Phillip, Frank Lounsan, Jamie Miller, Henry Miller, Main & Martsh, M. Lawrence, George Junemann, Jacob Horner, Thos. McKeever, John J. Gentner, Urban Geier, Charles A. Steele, John Graff, John Roeger, Henry Governor, John Baier, W. L. Bouchert, Rudolph Peterson, Gottfried Scheible, John B. Stephenson, Romanus Rudhart, Lepold Kolipinski, C. G. Gockler, Henry C. Christian, Journal & Fiddler, Frederick Friedman, August Bacchus, Timothy O'Donohue, David Riordan, Casper Herbert, Ernst Dahle, John Corrigan, John Bligh and Thomas Meany.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.

MR. JAMES T. FIELDS—TENNYSON.

To-night Mr. James T. Fields will occupy the rostrum of Lincoln hall with the delivery of his beautiful and most instructive lecture on "Tennyson—The Man and the Poet." He will speak of Tennyson's claim as a poet on the world's regard; his early days of preparation and determination; his early march to the temple of fame; Wordsworth's choice of him as successor to the laureateship; his great learning; his habits of composition; his manner of reading his poems aloud; his daily life; and he will describe various interviews with the poet, based on notes taken on the day at Ballantyne's.

A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

One of the pleasantest masquerade parties of the season assembled at Saengerbund hall, on Wednesday night, the event being a masquerade surprise party tendered to Mrs. Charles Kaufman by her friends. The management of the affair was under the direction of Mrs. R. L. Blount, and great credit is due that lady for the manner in which the affair was conducted. Among the many characters represented were "The Negro Nurse," by Mrs. Simon Wolf; "Infant," Mrs. Rebecca Adler; "Fifteenth Amendment in Full Bloom," Mrs. I. L. Blount; "Parisian Belle," Mrs. Max Sickle; "School Girls," Mrs. Max Weyl and Miss Antoinette Hartshorn; "Scandal," Miss R. Hexter; "Beggar Girl," Miss Isabella Raff; "Fat Woman," Miss Gertrude Raff; "Old Folks," Miss Mary Ikeider; "Peasant Girl," Miss Hattie Weyl; "Sunflower," Miss Josephine Wolf; Miss Florence Wolf, "Daughter of the Regiment;" Mr. Henry Raff as "Katrina;" Mr. M. Newmyer, "Young Girl from the Country;" Mr. Simon Kaufmann, "Old Maid;" Mr. Max Lansburg, "President's Mounted Guard;" U. Dannenberg, "Adolphus Orange Blossom;" J. Gottheif, "Fagan," and Mr. Elias Raff as "Rob Roy." It lasted to the small hours of the morning, and was with the "merry" dancing was indulged in, and at a late hour the party broke up in the best of spirits. The occasion will long occupy a prominent place in the memory of the participants.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19, 1874.

No. 72. The Germania Insurance Company et al., appellants, vs. The Steamboat Lady Pike, &c. The argument of this cause was continued by Mr. J. D. McPherson, of counsel for the appellants, and by Mr. T. D. Lincoln for the appellee, and concluded by Mr. J. D. McPherson for the appellants.

No. 73. Jos. A. Walker, plaintiff in error, vs. Chas. S. Sanvinet. Continued on motion of Mr. T. J. Durant.

No. 77, (substituted for No. 75 by agreement.) The Florida Railroad Company, plaintiff in error, vs. C. Shaler Smith et al. The argument of this cause was commenced by Mr. W. M. Merrick, of counsel for the plaintiff in error.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MRS. JOHN L. WEBSTER.

A large number of the friends of this estimable lady assembled at the Nineteenth-street Baptist church to attend her funeral. Rev. Mr. Bingy, the pastor, assisted by Rev. Mr. Madden, officiated. Mr. Webster has lost a most excellent character and Christian piety. She leaves four young children to mourn her loss with her husband and many friends.

AUCTION SALES TO-DAY.

By Latimer & Cleary:

At 4:30 o'clock, valuable improved property, on the east side of Ninth street, between I street and Public Square, being No. 369 northwest.

By Thos. Dowling:

At 4 o'clock, the west part of lot numbered 2, in square numbered 290.

By W. L. Wall & Co.:

At 10 o'clock, a large consignment of elegant walnut chamber and parlor furniture.

FIFTY STYLES OF ELYSIAN AND FUR BEAVER OVERCOATS NOW ON THE COUNTERS. PRICES FROM $10 TO $35.

EISEMAN BROS.,
505 Seventh street, May Building.

BLACK BEAVER SACK OVERCOATS, handsomely bound and trimmed, $20. Just received.

GEO. C. HENNING, No. 410 Seventh street.

THE CHEAPEST YET.

A FACED ELYSIAN OVERCOAT AT $10.

EISEMAN BROS., 505 Seventh street.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A young lady desires a situation.

A meeting of those in favor of suffrage.

Downman & Green have money to loan.

Furnished parlor and chambers for rent.

Houses furnished or unfurnished for rent.

Duneanson Bros. will sell to-day dry goods.

Lengnan's zephyr worsted for sale at Prince's.

Four furnished rooms and a parlor and bedroom for rent.

Several solicitors for fire and life insurance companies are wanted.

Duncanson Bros. will sell on Tuesday, December 1, house No. 907 Fourth street northwest.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

Epicures, study.—M. F. C., 4-6-8-9-S.

For New England, the Middle States and the lower lake region, increasing cloudiness, with easterly or southerly winds on the coast, falling barometer, no decided change in temperature, and light rain or snow in the last-named districts.

The following was the range of the thermometer at Hempler's yesterday: 8 a. m., 40°; 10 a. m., 50°; 12 m., 55°; 2 p. m., 55°; 4 p. m., 55°; 6 p. m., 47°; 8 p. m., 40°.

"Sweets of life."—M. F. C., 4-6-8-9-S.

Read the "Star Course" advertisement in this paper.

Harper's Weekly has been received from J. C. Parker.

An adjourned meeting of Montgomery Presbytery was held at Catawba church, Roanoke county, Va., on the 13th and 14th instants.

A slight fire occurred yesterday morning in Peter May's bakery, on Market space, caused by a defect in the oven. Damage about $150; fully insured.

The sales of wheat were as follows in Georgetown yesterday: 1,800 bushels of wheat at $1.23, 2,000 bushels at $1.31½ to $1.33½, and 500 bushels at $1.35½.

California pears of different varieties, Catawba grapes and Malaga grapes opened fresh every day at Malaga Fruit Company's, 408 Ninth street, near D.

The junk store of J. Dreifus & Co., on the northeast corner of the intersection of King and Lee streets, Alexandria, was destroyed by fire Tuesday night.

The hose carriage formerly belonging to the Potomac hose company of the District of Columbia has been purchased by the Columbia fire company of Alexandria.

Mr. Thos. Dowling has sold at public auction, for Walter S. Cox and W. D. Casein, trustees, the Ramsburg property, on High street, near Second, Georgetown, to A. H. Herr, for $6,400.

The George's Creek Coal Company of Cumberland, Md., ceased the shipment of coal by canal for the season on Saturday. The Borden Coal Company will continue to ship coal by canal until the 26th.

An inquiring man thrust his fingers into a horse's mouth to see how many teeth he had. The horse closed his mouth to see how many fingers the man had. The curiosity of each was fully satisfied.

When a Baltimore husband gets cold and careless, and forgets his home, his wife "puts up" a letter "from an admirer," asking her to elope and all that, and her husband's early love returns as soon as he finds the letter.

A spread-eagle orator wanted the wings of a bird to fly to every village and hamlet in the broad land, but he wilted when a naughty boy in the crowd sang out, "You'd be shot for a goose before you had fled a mile."

The high-toned old Democrats who wouldn't have a mass meeting are now talking of celebrating the victory by a banquet. This will "fit them." As one of them remarks recently said in a public speech, they have been "living on low diet for a long time."

At the annual meeting of Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 7, on Monday night last, officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: M. E. H. P., James B. Lambie; king, M. R. Thorp; scribe, F. A. Schneider; treasurer, T. J. Luttrell; secretary, A. S. Taylor.

B. H. Warner, real estate broker and auctioneer, sold yesterday afternoon, at auction, lot 19, square 240, on Corcoran street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets northwest, improved by a two-story brick dwelling with Mansard roof and basement, to the Arlington Fire Insurance Company, at $4,750.

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* says: "Mrs. Swisshelm says she wears a chemise of unbleached cotton, and that she washes herself in hot water with out soap; but never irons it. It is no wonder that old man Swisshelm has never permitted himself to be heard of for the last forty years. Such a chemise were enough to crush a much steadier husband than ever he was."

The opening services of the new Israel church, corner of B and First streets southwest, will be held Sunday in the lecture room. The morning services will be conducted by the Rev. Professor J. B. Reeve, of Howard University. In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, the Right Rev. Bishop Paine, D. D., will officiate, assisted by Rev. B. Brown, of Georgetown. At 7½ p. m. Rev. J. D. S. Hall, of Baltimore, will preach.

The receipts of cattle at the Drovers' Rest yesterday were: 566 beef cattle, 600 sheep and lambs, and 24 cows and calves, which were disposed of as follows: 447 beef cattle sold to butchers at prices ranging from 3 to 5¾ cents per pound; 100 sold to farmers at 3 to 4 cents per pound, and 19 left over; 600 old sheep and lambs at prices from 4½ to 6½ cents per pound for old sheep, and $3.50 to $5 each for lambs; 25 cows and calves sold for $20 and $60 each. Market brisk.

FISH CULTURE.

REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION.

The United States Fish Commission, at the conclusion of their summer's work, have returned to this city, and are now engaged in drawing up their annual report. The following facts are a summary of their year's labors:

At the head of the commission is Professor S. F. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution; its secretary is H. E. Roekwell, of this city. At the head of the naturalists of the commission was Professor A. E. Verrill, of Yale College, whose principal subject of investigation is the marine invertebrates. He was assisted by Professor S. I. Smith and four or five students from the Scientific School, of New Haven. Wesleyan University, of Middletown, Connecticut, was represented by Professors Rice and G. Brown Goode; to the latter was specially intrusted the ichthyological department. Professor Hyatt, of Boston, assisted by Professors Saltonstall and Rathbone, represented the Boston Society of Natural History. From Yale, beside those already mentioned, came Professor E. S. Lamb, with two or three assistants; from Cambridge, D. W. B. Farlow these two gentlemen gave special attention to collections of algæ or seaweed.

From Philadelphia, representing the Franklin Institute, came Dr. Gilbert, Dr. Leidy, and microscopic formations, and Dr. Henry Chapman. The artist was Mr. Blake, of Cambridge. The party was, therefore, composed of over twenty scientists, who gave their time and thought all the warm months in prosecuting "investigations with the view of ascertaining whether any and what diminution in the number of food fishes of the coasts and lakes of the United States has taken place, and, if so, to what causes the same is due; also, whether any and what protective, prohibitory or precautionary measures should be adopted in the premises." To carry out this programme evidently requires a complete zoological, botanical and physical survey of all the waters of the United States.

It is the wonder gentlemen to state that of the whole twenty only two receive salaries or any pay except their actual expenses. The secretary and the artist are paid by the Government out of the appropriation, but the others give their services to the work of the commission, amply repaid by their contributions to science, and by the collections of fauna, algæ, &c., that they collect for their several institutions.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMISSION.

The place selected for their headquarters the present year was the pretty little fishing village of Noank, in Connecticut. Situated at the end of Long Island Sound, and looking out on the Atlantic Ocean, midway between New London and Stonington, with a population principally engaged in fishing, it was well suited to the purposes of the commission. To and from their labors the Secretary of the Navy sent the small steamer Blue Light, Captain Beardslee, of the Washington navy yard, in command, with a picked crew of eight or nine men. The chief work of the steamer was to carry the party to the scene of their daily labors, and to do the heavy work of dredging and trawling. By this aid of steam, the amount of work done in the season was at least quadrupled. Including the scientific gentlemen, their families, their assistants, the crews of the Blue Light, and the numerous scientists who were often visiting them, about seventy persons were constantly assembled at Noank, studying fishes, their food, their habits, and their habitat.

SALMON FROM WESTERN WATERS.

While investigating the questions concerning the food fishes of the Atlantic, great attention has been paid to the food fishes of the lakes and rivers. Under the direction of Prof. Baird, Mr. Livingston Stone has been employed on the Macleod river, a branch of the Sacramento, obtaining salmon eggs, of which he secured some six millions. The salmon of the Macleod are a very vigorous fish, growing rapidly, and larger than our Eastern salmon, weighing 20 and 30, and occasionally 50 pounds. This species is especially adapted to the warmer waters of the country, and the eggs thus obtained have been distributed in the headwaters of the Susquehanna, Potomac, James, Delaware, and even the Mississippi. They come forward much early than those from the colder waters of New England and Canada, the ova being obtained in August and September, and the young fishes, fully hatched, intrusted to their future homes in November and December.

Of the 6,000,000 eggs obtained by Mr. Stone, 1,000,000 were retained in the Pacific river, that that source of supply might not be dried up; the other 5,000,000 were distributed in the Middle and Western States; 750,000 were sent to Michigan, and 100,000 to Utah. Half a million were placed in the hatching-house of Mr. Alexander Kent, of Baltimore, to be distributed over Maryland and Virginia, and another large amount to a similar institution at Bloomington, N. J. Besides these salmon gathered from Oregon and scattered in the warmer waters of the country, Mr. Charles G. Adkins, of Bucksport, Me., on the Penobscot, has obtained 2,500,000 eggs from that river. These fishes, adapted to the streams of New England and northern New York, are slower in coming to maturity than the Western fish. They are scattered in April and November, and placed in the water in the following February and March. From Maine and Oregon, therefore, 7,500,000 salmon eggs have been, this year, gathered and distributed in all the rivers of the land that run to the ocean.

But in addition to this, Prof. Baird has succeeded in obtaining eggs of the land-locked salmon of Lake Sebago, in Maine. This species of salmon, though now fresh water, is supposed to have run up thither from the ocean, but never to have returned. They are a small fish, weighing from three to eight pounds, but very fine eating. 150,000 of these eggs have been secured and distributed among the rivers