CURRENT NEWS OF THE CITY

ATTEMPT AT SELF-DESTRUCTION.

A GOVERNMENT CLERK WANTS TO DIE.

DESTRUCTION OF DISTRICT SECURITIES.

STATEMENT OF THOSE DESTROYED.

Professor Pike's Lecture on Geology—The New York Republicans—Runaway and Accident—The Mexican Veterans—Odd Fellows' Choir—Miscellaneous Paragraphs.

For New England and the Middle States, partly cloudy and cool weather will prevail, with northwest to northeast winds and rising barometer.

Use Patterson & Jones' Trophy tomatoes. Choice fruits—Malaga Fruit Co., 408 9th st.

Saturday night Bishop Pinckney confirmed twenty candidates at the Church of the Ascension.

If we were "a would-be-pupil," in water colors, we should advertise our wants in THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

Thomas Ford, colored, was badly injured Saturday afternoon by the falling of a scaffold at a new building, corner of Seventeenth and R streets northwest.

Lady Patterson, the little mare that became so great a favorite at the first fall meeting of the Washington Driving Association, has arrived in the city to take part in the spring races.

In THE NATIONAL book and job-printing department all classes and kinds of printing are done with better satisfaction to the parties interested than in any other establishment.

The mother of James B. Ryan, of the Treasury Department, died on Saturday morning, after a long and painful illness. The funeral will take place this afternoon, at 3 o'clock, from St. Dominic's church.

Officer Dunnigan, of the Fifth precinct, Saturday night arrested a young colored man named John Stewart, on the charge of stealing a sheep from the store of Mr. E. F. Randall, on Eleventh street, near E.

About 11 o'clock Saturday night Sergeant Dine, more turned in an alarm from box 38, caused by the burning out of a chimney in house No. 1035 C street southwest. The department responded, but did not go into service.

William Tietz, who was arrested a few days since for the larceny of goods valued at $75 from Thomas C. Tallman, of Montgomery county, Md., has been delivered to Sheriff Waters, of that county, on a requisition from Governor Coode.

THE REPUBLICAN book and job department is one of the very best appointed printing establishments in the country. It would be well for lawyers and other professional men, as well as our business men in general, to bear it in mind.

A little girl named Jane Brook, two years old, while playing in the house of her parents, corner of M street and Connecticut avenue, her clothes caught fire from the stove, and she was badly burned. Dr. Mendenhall attended at medical aid, and pronounced the injuries serious.

THE REPUBLICAN book and job office, second floor of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN building, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Thirteenth street, for promptness and excellence of work, surpasses any other printing establishment in the city.

Mr. Jacob D. Faunce, the proprietor of Freestone point, one of the finest fishing landings on the Potomac, is all ready for the work of the season. To-morrow morning he will lay out his mammoth seine, which is two thousand fathoms long, the largest seine in this section. He expects to make some big hauls with it.

Saturday afternoon Sergeant Joseph Acton arrested a well-known thief named James Smith, for being connected with several recent robberies, and particularly the robbery of the residence of Mr. Hall, corner Tenth and H streets, from which articles to the value of about $100 were taken. He was caught while leaving the Comique, and when searched at the Central station had in his possession the stolen articles and a loaded pistol were found on his person. He has just served out a term at Albany.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were granted on Saturday:

Etsine Fournim and Margaret King; Charles Mathias Werle and Margaret Christina Geier.

Introductory Lecture at the National Medical College.

Dr. E. M. Schaeffer, lecturer on histology, &c., will open the summer course of instruction at the National Medical College this evening at 8:30 o'clock, with an introductory lecture on the microscope, to which all are invited. The regular lectures will then continue during the summer session.

Mr. Townsend's Lecture To-Night.

This will probably be the last opportunity that Mr. Townsend's fascinating lecture on "Scraps." Those desirous of enjoying a literary treat should not fail to attend the Mount Zion church to-night. The lecture will be enlivened by numerous character readings, in the vivacious and happy remition of which Mr. Townsend excels.

New Suits.

The following new suits were entered on Saturday:

M. H. Hartzell vs. Chronicle Publishing Co.; damages for libel. E. B. Bliss vs. James B. Merchant and James A. Butler; on contract. Lucy B. Moore vs. Alex. Sharp; replevin. J. Whittaker vs. Douglass & Sargent; note, $225. Curtis A. Shiler vs. W. H. Wylie; account, $229 20. Shipley, Smith & Co. vs. McWally; account, $200 10. J. H. Hechiman vs. Sharp; replevin. James Taylor vs. B. Summerfield; note, $1,000. Frederick K Green vs. Franklin Rives; note, $1,750.

RUNAWAY AND SMASH-UP.

A Man and His Daughter Thrown from a Carriage.

Yesterday afternoon, while Mr. Frederick Hiden was out riding with his daughter, and when near the corner of Eighth and Boundary streets, the horse became frightened and ran away. Turning the corner of Ninth street in his wild career, the carriage was upset, throwing the occupants out. Mr. Hiden was taken to the residence of Dr. Barmer, 1820 Ninth street, and medical assistance rendered, after which he was removed to his home. The daughter was more fortunate than her father, and escaped uninjured.

ANALOSTAN BOAT CLUB.

Prospects for the Coming Season.

The Analostan Boat Club held a regular monthly meeting last Saturday night and elected six additional members. The Analostans are wide-awake and means business this season. They have ordered a new swift shell from Elliott, of Greenpoint, as they expect a long and tough pull with the Nassau boys, who will no doubt do their level best to take back the colors so gallantly won from them last season. The Analostans are in a flourishing condition, and will in the future, as they have in the past, endeavor to make amateur rowing first in the order of outdoor sports.

DISTRICT NOTES.

Destruction of Redeemed Securities.

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have designated the Comptroller of the District to superintend, under the direction of the Secretary of the United States Treasury, the destruction by burning of all bonds and securities of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and of the District of Columbia, and all coupons thereof heretofore paid and redeemed, as required by the act of Congress approved March 3, 1875. The Comptroller is now engaged in preparing a full descriptive schedule of the same, preliminary to the burning, which schedule is to be preserved among the District records and also at the Treasury Department. Among the securities to be thus destroyed are:

Sewer certificates	497,000
Greenback 8 per cents	512 00
Washington city 30-year 6 per cents	450 00
Pennsylvania avenue certificates, 10 per cent	101 000
Washington city certificates, 7-3-10 per cent	500,000
Notes of A. R. Shepherd, Governor and President Board of Public Works	225 000

Also a large amount of coupons paid by the Commissioners and District authorities.

At the rate of redemption (if maintained) since the inauguration of the present authorities the District debt will soon be all paid off.

The revenues for sinking fund and interest for the remainder are ample and are provided for by appropriations of Congress. With such ample resources guaranteed by the United States, we predict the day is not far distant when our bonds will be nearer at par value, and those bearing coin interest will rapidly appreciate to near the prices commanded for United State 5-20's.

SPELLING MATCHES.

A New Suggestion for Conducting Them.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: While the present "spelling mania" is prevailing would it not be well to vary the methods of conducting the "spelling matches?" There are many of our most experienced educators who do not consider "oral spelling" the best method of learning to spell correctly. We have seen that many of the words which were misspelled in the first of the matches have been misspelled in each of the successive matches. As a general thing we do not correct our spelling by hearing the words spelled correctly, but by seeing them in their correct forms. But we will not argue this point here, because I wish to propose a plan which, I think, will draw out all the interest, pleasure, (and fun, if you please,) which are directly derived from the present methods of conducting these, and at the same time make the exercises more practically useful, both to the scholars and to the spectators.

1. Let there be provided a large blackboard, or a number of good blackboards, to be placed upon the stage in the full view of the audience. There should be blackboard enough to allow all the words pronounced to be written in neat and legible characters.

2. After arranging the two sides in the usual way let the scholars in order step to the board as the word is pronounced for each, and write it plainly in a regular column, which should remain until the close of the exercises.

3. The misspelled word should be corrected at the time it is written, and then the speller should write it correctly upon a portion of the board set apart for the purpose, so that a correct impression of each word may be made upon the minds of all who see it.

4. Let the schoolmaster, as usual, declare at once when a word has been misspelled, and then let the scholar step aside after writing it correctly.

Other regulations may be necessary, but, I think, it is evident that much better results will be secured, and all the interest kept up, by adopting the plan above indicated. VIA.

OUR VETERANS.

Survivors of the Mexican War.

The regular meeting of this Association took place Saturday evening at the rooms of Denver & Beck, 315 Pennsylvania avenue; General J. W. Denver presiding, and A. M. Kenaday, secretary. The meeting was well attended.

Under a resolution authorizing the secretary to enroll as members, without the formality and delay of election, those who filed application and came forward during the late application and paid their initation fees, the following additional names were added to the roll, viz: Major General Samuel P. Heintzelman, U. S. A., retired, (who served as captain in the Second U. S. infantry in the Mexican war;) Judge Edward Sander, (captain Fourth Indiana volunteers;) Hamilton G. Fant, (assistant commissary First Missouri volunteers;) Andrew R. Potts, (captain and assistant commissary on staff of General Wool;) John T. Norris, (company B, Captain McCausland, Missouri cavalry;) Howard M. Cole, (company F, First Pennsylvania volunteers, Captain Bennett;) Edward Johannes, teamster in quartermaster's department, under Captain S. B. Dusenbury.

V. E. King (marine corps, under Colonel Watson,) was also proposed as a member, and will be enrolled on compliance with rules at next meeting. The following additional names are in the same category: Robert Ingersoll, Alexandria, Va., (a member of Captain Fairfax's company L, Virginia volunteers;) David H. Logan, (company A, Captain Taylor, Third U. S. artillery;) General John Love, (colonel Ninth Ind., (first lieutenant company B, Captain E. A. Sumner, First U. S. dragoons;) Colonel Elias M. Greene, (Captain Ballowe's company of Texas Rangers;) James S. Dawson, (U. S. Congress;) Martin Thorn, (company B, First New York volunteers;) Hon. Alpheus S. Williams, M. C., (lieutenant colonel first regiment Michigan volunteers.)

The president announced the resignation of Judge J. J. Martin as a trustee of the association, on account of his departure from the city to assume the duties of postmaster at Montgomery, Ala., and Mahlon D. Montis, esq., was elected to fill the vacancy.

Comrade A. R. French announced that he had voluntarily collected from various sources the sum of $[illegible] for the relief of destitute members of the association, and that he would make a full report of its disposition at the next meeting.

Colonel Moses remarked, in reference to the resolution of last meeting discontinuing the regular monthly meetings after April, except on the call of the president, that some regrets had been expressed by members at this action who desired their continuance for social purposes.

President Denver stated that the resolution would not prevent frequent assemblages if anything of special interest transpired to justify a called meeting, but that during the warm weather the attendance would be small if only routine business was the attraction. Every meeting involved some expense to the association and considerable labor for the Secretary, whose duties he thought should be regulated.

The resolution still remains in force.

Secretary Kenaday stated that he has received many letters from abroad inquiring when the preceding of the late national convention would be published, and he finds it inconvenient to convey by letter to all these inquiries the information that he had been again left without the pecuniary means to prosecute the work devolving on him. He hoped some explanation would be made in regard to the delay, which would be published as a part of the proceedings of the meeting, and thereby save him the labor and individual expense of writing and posting elaborate letters on the subject.

Major General Heintzelman, who was present, reinforced the statement of the secretary that when the national convention of the 22d and 23d of February was about to adjourn, a proposition to raise funds for defraying its expenses until their next meeting in 1876 by collections from delegates present was objected to by several members on the ground that they were not prepared to advance the money at that time, and a substitute was offered by Geo. John Love, of Indiana, which passed unanimously, providing "that an executive committee of three members, residing in Washington, be appointed by the chair, with full power to act in behalf of the national association by assessment on the States or otherwise, as in their discretion may be best, and that all disbursements be made by their order." The president appointed the following gentlemen as the committee himself, (Gen. Heintzelman,) Capt. S. V. Niles and M. D. Montis, esq. The committee had held several meetings, and considered various propositions, all of which are attended with more or less difficulty; but they have agreed upon a plan which will in a few days be embodied in the form of a circular, and transmitted to the officers of the association in the several States and Territories through the first secretary.

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GEOLOGY.

Lecture by Professor Pike.

At Lyceum Hall yesterday Prof. J. W. Pike discoursed on the subject of Geology to a numerous audience. He said in substance: The tendency of the earth is to the waters of the earth, unrelieved by counter causes, is to eat up the land. A different force is continually at work, however, to prevent this result. This force is fire. The fact is capable of demonstration by sound and various evidence. The evidence is: first, that given by an examination of the various parts of the world. Where, you go down into the earth the ratio of heat increases as you descend. This increase is greater in different countries. In some places it is only half a mile to the heat, in others it is twelve miles, and the same evidence. There are a great many. The most noticeable are those in France. At Grenelle warms the hospital of the invalids. Then in Hot Springs are further evidence of intense heat. Many of them exist, scattered over the globe, and have existed in all history. Another evidence is found in earthquakes. The great shock is the result of the earth rises up and forms cracks; sometimes whole cities are swallowed up. The lecturer here gave a glowing description of the destruction of Pompeii. We can represent such an earthquake by covering a tank of quicksilver with earth. Shake the silver and you at once imitate the action of an earthquake. The crust of this globe rests on liquid of some kind. It is probably molten metal. There are no facts to prove this, however. Volcanoes are still another evidence of this internal heat. They are the great steam engines by which the globe is lifted slowly. Throughout the globe there is a correspondence in volcanic action. A volcano is simply a rent or fissure through the crust of the earth, and through this vent comes molten matter. There is no smoke. What appears to be smoke is only dust. There are gases, however. Generally it forms in the sea—almost always. The formation of volcanoes has been studied by a great many persons. They are all formed in the same way. First, there is an earthquake for a long time. The earth shudders under the action of some great force. By and by the sea recedes. Why? Because the ground rises up. The sea flows out. Then the waters sink down and topple in the earth, and the earth gaps open. By degrees such as these a volcano is gradually formed.

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The Election of Officers—Church Vestrymen Chosen.

Liberty Council, No. 2, Sons of Jonadab, has elected the following officers: J. S. Finch, W. C.; M. J. Hurley, W. P.; J. Bullock, P. C.; R. Sudden, D. C.; C. S. Hatch, R. S.; H. Schofiel, F. S.; F. W. Pfaff, T.; C. Campbell, G.; R. Olive, A. G.; D. Proctor, I. W.; J. H. Williams, O. W.

St. Paul's English Lutheran Church, Rev. S. Domer, pastor, has elected for the ensuing year vestrymen as follows: J. C. Parker, Andrew Neer, George W. Linkins, Nicholas Eckhardt and J. G. Meyers.

At the regular quarterly meeting of the Peabody Literary Association, held April 4, 1875, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: President, Max Kleiman; vice president, Elias Peyser; treasurer, A. Behrend; financial secretary, H. Stern; recording secretary, M. Schwartz; stage manager, F. F. Jones; literary critic, H. Peyser.

At the annual meeting of the I. O. O. F. Choir, held on Saturday evening last, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: John H. Seiffert, president; Wm. H. Frazier, vice president; R. H. Boswell, secretary; J. Martin McFarland, treasurer; Frank Durand, librarian; Prof. Joseph H. Daniel, first leader; John H. Seiffert, second leader; Prof. John E. Scheel, organist; Miss Florence Cook, pianist. This choir, composed exclusively of members of the Order, together with such ladies as they may elect to assist them on public occasions, is in a very flourishing condition, and numbers among its members some of the best singers of Washington. They have just taken up for rehearsal the operatic cantata of the "Haymakers," and intend to render it in a grand concert early in the coming season.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

A Common Case-Knife the Weapon Used.

Yesterday morning, between 11 and 12 o'clock, John E. Ayers, a clerk in the Quartermaster General's office, made a desperate attempt to commit suicide at his residence, No. 803 O street northwest. Lieutenant Noonan, of the second precinct, about the time above given, was accosted by a lady at the corner of Seventh and N streets, who, in an excited manner, said there was a man bleeding to death on O street from an attempt at self-destruction, and there was no one in the house but his wife and two small children. The officer hastened to the residence and found the story verified. The man had a common, dull case-knife and with it was sawing away on his arm, just above the elbow-joint, attempting to sever the artery. The other arm was bleeding profusely from similar cuts, and large pools of blood dotted the floor. The lieutenant relieved himself of his great coat and entered into a struggle with the man for possession of the knife. It was a tough contest. Although the blood spurted from the several cuts, besmearing the furniture and walls, still the man fought, expressing a determination to keep the knife and finish himself. The officer was finally successful in taking the instrument of death from him, and then, grasping him by the wrists, turned him over to the wife to hold while he slipped out for medical aid.

He was absent only a short time, but when he returned the man again had the knife hacking away at his arm, having, despite the free bleeding, possessed sufficient strength to overcome his wife. He was immediately disarmed by the Lieutenant, and he subsided until too weak to commit further harm. Drs. J. H. Welsh and J. H. Bushnell were in attendance and rendered temporary assistance. He was finally placed in an ambulance and taken to the Freedmen's hospital, where he was attended by Dr. German, the surgeon in charge. The physicians thinks, while he is weak from the great loss of blood, that the wounds will be not dangerous, and the chances for his recovery are favorable. The arteries were not cut, but he succeeded in severing many of the vicus, from which there was a copious flow of blood. The man evidently was not in his right mind when the deed was attempted. He had been drinking quite hard of late, but last Friday stopped. Whether the sudden breaking off of other troubles induced the rash undertaking it is difficult to tell. As it was he made a narrow escape of his life, and is indebted to the prompt action of Lieutenant Noonan in preventing him from operating effectually with the case-knife.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

Women's Temperance Union.

To the Editor of the National Republican:

SIR: The members of the "Women's Temperance Union," who have labored so unceasingly in the cause of temperance during the past year, persuading men to leave the intoxicating cup and abandon their visits to saloons, where they are so cordially invited to come and drink, now offer something more in the nature of liquid refreshment to strengthen and refresh, without the dangerous influences of strong drink.

They have decided to open a "Temperance dining room," where a good, healthy lunch can be had for the price of a glass of liquor, believing this is the practical work for the temperance advocates.

With untiring zeal, a committee appointed by the "Union" have called upon many of our citizens, asking their co-operation; to which appeal they have met a hearty response, and intend to open such a place early this month. Having secured rooms in the new building opposite the Patent office on F street, they now earnestly ask the countenance and support of all classes, particularly of those who have been benefited by food, we would rave you own friends from the temptation of the dram-shop, help in this important work which they have undertaken. They would gladly add to the attractions of the place, if means could be collected to be freely dispensed from delegates present, but this was objected to by several members on the ground that they were not prepared to advance the money at that time, and a substitute was offered by Geo. John Love, of Indiana, which passed unanimously, providing "that an executive committee of three members, residing in Washington, be appointed by the chair, with full power to act in behalf of the national association by assessment on the States or otherwise, as in their discretion may be best, and that all disbursements be made by their order." The president appointed the following gentlemen as the committee himself, (Gen. Heintzelman,) Capt. S. V. Niles and M. D. Montis, esq. The committee had held several meetings, and considered various propositions, all of which are attended with more or less difficulty; but they have agreed upon a plan which will in a few days be embodied in the form of a circular, and transmitted to the officers of the association in the several States and Territories through the first secretary.

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THE CHURCHES YESTERDAY

(Continued from First Page.)

doing now? What is it to do for the next fifty years? This, he said, is the important question for us to consider. Fifty years ago books were rare and expensive; now they are cheap and plenty. Fifty years ago the subscription business was unknown; now the canvassers carry the printed book into every village and to every house. Fifty years ago the combined newspaper circulation of the country was less than ninety millions; now it is over a billion and a half. The question is often asked whether these agencies have not taken the place of the Church. Society, and rendered it needless. The speaker said he proposed to look briefly and rapidly at them in succession in considering this question. First comes the American newspaper. It is a greater wonder than any of the far-famed seven wonders of the world of olden time. It gives us every morning for breakfast a volume, which we read as we sip our coffee. In a week it gives us a library that would have lasted our fathers for a life-time.

It is a wonderful reporter of events. It holds the mirror up before the revolving world, and gives us every day the panorama of the day before. More wonderful than the far-famed Colossus of old, it puts one foot on America and another on Europe and reaches out its many hands to gather from Asia, Africa and the isles of the sea. But it is simply a reporter. It makes no discrimination. It reports the evil with the good. It gives in one column the revival in England, and in the adjoining column the last prize fight across the border; on Monday the great sermon, and on Tuesday the great scandal; now it takes us to Africa and brings back the last news from the lamented Livingstone, and to-morrow it crosses the desert of Tartary and reports the Russian war with Khiva. The speaker then complained of this. But the time had gone by when

OUR CHILDREN'S INNOCENCE

could be preserved by keeping them in ignorance. The speaker thanked God it was so. We had eaten the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and we must learn, and our children must learn to know both the evil and the good that is in the world, and to discriminate between them. But since the daily paper did not and could not make that discrimination, there was all the more reason why the Christian Church should, by a Christian literature, afford the means for such discrimination. The daily paper bought both straw and wheat; the church must use the flail and fan to sift the wheat from the chaff. The speaker had considered the religious press, which he said was of very great importance, but was for religious readers. It fed the Church, but it did not supplant our domestic and vicious literature outside the Church. It was a commissary department. But baggage wagons are not artillery, nor loaves of bread and cans of meat grape and canister.

The speaker rebuked the prepared for a Union Tract Society was that furnished by the denominational boards. These were probably useful as a means of supplying the particular creed of particular churches, but in those days, when infidelity denied that there was any God but force, any Providence but law, any immortality but annihilation, or any prayer but the wind, was not a time for denominations. It was time to unite upon fundamental truths which are held by all Evangelical Churches in common. The speaker finally considered the question whether trade could supply all the Christian literature that was needed. He insisted that it could not; that trade would supply what was already demanded, while the Church must create the demand, and he urged that the Church must create as well as employ literature; that it must not send, as Israel did in its degenerate days, to the Philistines to forge and sharpen its coulters and its mattocks. He closed by an appeal to the simple faith that God, we did not merely select from human literature the best books to make a Bible, but inspired men especially to write the Christian book, which was to be the fountain from which all Christian literature was to be forever drawn.

REMARKS OF REV. E. P. BURCH.

Mr. Strong then introduced Rev. E. P. Burch, of New York, who introduced his remarks with the scriptural passage, "Darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people." None, he said, could be more dark than the people. The aim of the society was to dispel this gloom that hung over the masses where heathenism and Romanism had ground them to the dust. What they wanted was the Gospel truth to shine out on their minds and energies. The speaker then exhibited some of the results of the work of the society in the form of books, pamphlets and periodicals, printed in the Chinese, Japanese, Choctaw, Kota languages and in several of the Polynesian dialects.

Before concluding the jubilee Mr. Strong wished to say that, though familiar with all the Christian organizations of the country, he knew of no other that so directly reaches the hearts of the immense immigrant population as the American Tract Society.

After a collection in behalf of the society, the meeting was dismissed by a benediction from Dr. Chickering.

Catholics' Friend Society.

The semi-annual meeting of the Young Catholics' Friend Society was held last evening in the old church of the parish of the Immaculate Conception, and the church was well filled with society and non-society people.

Major Edmund Mallett, president of the society and chairman of the meeting, which was composed of the several divisions, called the meeting to order. Mr. Joshua Huntington, secretary, made the first address, which was upon the amendment of the constitution to strike out the regular initiation fee of 50 cents, which he thought had operated prejudicially to the more rapid enlargement of the society. After two votes upon the amendment it was carried.

Father McCarthy then addressed the meeting, and spoke in high praise of the society, the parochial schools and the manner of their conduct, and said there was no cause effective of more good than the objects and aims of the society, and closed by saying: Let us do all we can to gather in the little ones, and thus prepare others to take our places in this mundane sphere.

Mr. John Bingham followed in a deeper, then read his semi-annual report as follows:

Receipts—From St. Patrick's branch, $109.75; St. Peter's, $116.75; St. Dominic's, $99; St. Aloysius', $111.75; St. Mary's, $27.50; Immaculate Conception, $87.75; lecture committee, $166.10; donations, $800; sale of badges, $2.80; total on hand per annual report, $680.20; total, $1,299.35.

Expenditures—To St. Patrick's schools, $26; St. Peter's, $25.50; St. Dominic's, $26.50; St. Aloysius', $34; St. Mary's $27.50; Immaculate Conception, $266; colored school, $25; extra tuition, $1; printing and stamps, $200; stationery, stamps, &c., $[illegible]; masses for deceased members, $9. Total, $1,[illegible]; balance on hand, $134.35.

Receipts for the month of March—Balance on hand, $134.35; received, $59. Total, $193.35. Expenditures, $223; balance due treasurer and exceeding receipts, $29.65.

Father Bokel reviewed the important work of the society and parochial schools, spoke of the souls saved by the charity fund, and the importance of united effort.

The steward, Mr. J. Howard Bushnell, then made his report of the disbursements of food and clothing for the six months ended March 31, 1875: Cash in hands of the treasurer and to the credit of the steward, $200; amount paid out, $177.56.

Disbursements of goods from September 17, 1874, to March 21, 1875, were as follows: St. Patrick's division, 10 yards cloth, 2 pairs shoes. St. Peter's, 9½ yards cloth, 3 pairs shoes. St. Aloysius', 40½ yards cloth, 21 pairs shoes. St. Dominic's, 10½ yards cloth, 10 pairs shoes. Immaculate Conception, 26¾ yards cloth, 11 pairs shoes, 1 cap. Total number of yards cloth, 97 pairs shoes, 1 cap. Number of yards of cloth on hand 4. Since report 10 yards issued, leaving a balance of cash on hand of $2.44.

Father Keane made the last address, being on the subject of education. The society stands forth as the representative of education, and the principles that underlie society. Education makes the men and men make the world. Therefore education is the great question. All the different powers want the men and work to get them. He then went on to show how education is received, and reviewed the various systems and the battle which had been waged in Germany, and in France, Prussia, England, America and so forth, and became very warm and interesting at this juncture, speaking of our public schools and the responsibility that rested on them, and how much good in them, but not enough. Catholics were not antagonistic to public schools. They simply had nothing to do with them. The other side had been the aggressor.

He then spoke of the great novelist Dickens' failure in the vocation God had given him. There was no religion in his human life, and human life without religion was an absurdity. He had talked to Father Burke, who had said there was a sacramental bad influence in Dickens. His works might be good for very bad people. Men who were bad down in life could be lifted up to the common level; others would be brought down. Father Keane then said that was his estimate of the public schools. Those who know the supernatural destiny of our souls could not consent to be brought down.

He did not say that the Catholic school system was up to the standard. He want a normal school system that would make teachers equal to any in the world.

Maj. Mallett then solicited new names to the list of members, and there was a liberal response.

The meeting then adjourned after prayer.

Confirmation at St. Patrick's Church.

The Most Rev. Archbishop Bayley administered the Sacrament of Confirmation at the above church yesterday morning at 8 o'clock to one hundred and seventy-seven persons, who after wards received Holy Communion, the Archbishop also officiating at the Mass.

The address to the candidates was brief and explanatory of the sacrament, and was delivered by the Archbishop in a plain, forcible manner. The females wore white veils appropriate to the occasion, and presented a beautiful appearance as two by two they advanced to the altar to receive the sacrament. The entire service was of the most solemn character, and left an impression on the minds of thoughtful persons not easily forgotten.

One important feature presented was the fact that twenty-seven of the forty-five adults confirmed were converts, five being from the Methodists, six from the Protestant Episcopalians, six from the Presbyterians, and the balance from other reformed denominations. Experience proves that the majority of converts are from the sects called evangelical, showing that views regarded as leading to Catholicism actually retard rather than hasten convergence to the Catholic faith. A review of the large number of candidates and converts to be instructed, the estimable clergy of St. Patrick's must need rest, especially when it is borne in mind that the recent Easter duties of the Catholic Church impose on the clergy an amount of labor almost superhuman.

Confirmation at St. Matthew's.

At 11 a. m. yesterday Archbishop Bayley, assisted by the Rev. Dr. White and Rev. D. C. De Wolf, confirmed one hundred and twenty-five candidates at St. Matthew's church, previously addressing them on the nature of the sacrament. Of the adults twelve were converts—four each from the Episcopal and Methodist denominations, three from the Presbyterians and one from the Congregationalists.

"The Church" and Bismarck.

To the Editor of the National Republican.

SIR: Your correspondent, "Lex Scripta," did not wait for my reply to his communication of the 24th ultimo, but essayed another on the 26th. Now, I hardly thought it fair that he should answer twice, but I accept it as evidence that he was aware that his former article had utterly failed to meet the objections raised by mine, and so he supplements it with another. In this last he says that he asserted and proved "that power was given to St. Peter and his successors, including the apostles, the Roman Pontiff, and the other bishops and clergy appointed by ecclesiastical authority, &c., and that these powers have existed and been exercised by the Catholic Church for 1,800 years, and which is to-day the holy and apostolic Church." His assertion I admit, but his proof I do not accept; nor do I believe that in practice "the Church" has been separate and distinct from the civil State.

It is true that certain powers were given to St. Peter, but what those powers were and how they were exercised is best known by reference to the pages of the Holy Scriptures. The explanation of the text, "Whose sins ye shall forgive," &c., is seen in Acts, ii:38: "Then Peter said, repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." The teachings of all the Apostles are in consonance with this declaration of Peter, and not in accordance with the practice of "the Church" in priestly absolution from sin, or in the sale by the Pope of plenary indulgences to commit crime. The exercise of Peter's power is again shown in Acts x, where the benefits of the Gospel having been limited up to that time to the Jews only, after God has made known his will in a vision, Peter opens it to the Gentiles.

As to the succession, we must deny that the Apostles have any. Paul, in writing on this subject, gives the necessary qualification of apostleship. He says that one is to be an apostle must have seen Jesus; and, in further support of his claim, says: "Truly, the signs of an apostle were