National Republican.

W. S. MURTAGH.....PROPRIETOR

TUESDAY.....SEPTEMBER 4, 1877.

LAW REFORM FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

When the framers of the Constitution of the United States provided that Congress should have power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over the district which was to be made the seat of government, they anticipated that people residing within the limits of the favored territory would derive peculiar benefits from the legislative wisdom of that body. These anticipations have been very far from being realized. This District should long since have been provided with a code of laws which might have served as a model for the rest of the country. But instead of a code so creditable to our national jurisprudence, the District of Columbia is to-day cursed with a body of law so confused and uncertain as to be simply barbarous.

To save the trouble of providing a separate code of laws for the new District when it was formed Congress enacted that the laws of Virginia and Maryland should remain in force within the parts of the District ceded by those States respectively. Thus before the portion of the District beyond the Potomac was retroceded to Virginia the courts were often on the same day obliged to declare and enforce two distinct systems of law within the same territorial jurisdiction. By the retrocession of a part of the territory to Virginia a portion of this anomaly has been gotten rid of, but the remainder of the District is still governed in part by the laws which happened to be in force in Maryland at the time that State ceded this portion of the District to the United States.

These old Maryland laws, together with a vast body of enactments by Congress and various local legislative bodies since, form such a defective and conflicting system of legislation as utterly confuses and bewilders any one who has not made them a special study. As new enactments have often been made without any knowledge of, or reference to the previous condition of the law, it is often impossible for even the most learned lawyers to advise clients with any degree of certainty as to their rights and liabilities. The most intelligent and conscientious citizen is liable to unknowingly violate laws which were passed one hundred years or more ago for an entirely different state of society.

It is fresh in the minds of our readers that it was recently discovered that an old Maryland law is still in force in this District imposing severe penalties for the violation of the Sabbath. No one dreamed of the existence of such a law until it was resurrected by the researches of the officers of the Department of Justice. Under that law which is still in force hundreds of arrests might be made every Sunday. No newsboy can cry a paper for sale without incurring its penalties.

Although all the officers of the District are now aware of that Sunday law it is not enforced. No law ought to be suffered to remain upon the statute books which cannot be enforced, for it begets disrespect for all law and completely demoralizes public sentiment to have dead-letter laws unrepealed. Yet this District now has scores of them. It would require many columns to expose all the deficiencies and absurdities of the laws by which this city is now governed. Suffice it to say that they need to be reformed worse than the laws of the Romans did when JUSTINIAN framed his celebrated code.

The science of legislation has been vastly improved since the beginning of the present century. The compilation of the *Code Napoleon* and the philosophical writings of JEREMY BENTHAM on the subject of the codification of the laws have had a marked influence in rendering legislation of many countries and States more concise and definite. The laws of the District of Columbia should at an early day be codified by a competent commission, composed of three or five of the most learned members of the bar of this District. In this way all the obsolete and conflicting provisions of the present system could be swept away and a body of law provided instead thereof worthy of the age and of the Capital of an enlightened nation.

PRISON ABUSES.

Of four murders committed in Hartford county, Connecticut, within the last few years, three were of officers by convicts confined in the Wethersfield State prison, in that county. It is charged that the convicts have been induced to commit these acts of violence in consequence of maltreatment by the officials. One of them, upon his trial for murder, claimed that he had been overtasked by work, and another that the food furnished to the convicts was unfit for human beings to eat.

The fact that such complaints are made as to the management of the Wethersfield prison shows that there is need for constant watchfulness upon the part of the public in regard to the government of such institutions. This State prison was formerly considered the model one of America, and the fact that it has now so degenerated only proves how prone the custodians of the criminal classes are to lapse into habits of cruelty and mismanagement. The evil can only be corrected by the frequent and thorough inspection of prisons by the public authorities, and frequent publications of reports as to their condition. Men who have been convicted of crimes do not cease to be human beings; but their custodians are very apt to fall into the habit of abusing them, as though all their claims to humane treatment had thereby been forfeited.

HARD TIMES.

Notwithstanding all the talk about hard times, a great deal of what is complained of is relative rather than actual. So far as the great mass of the people in the rural districts and non-manufacturing towns are concerned they now on an average enjoy more both of the necessities and luxuries of life than they did before the war. A great many of the complaints we hear daily are caused by the fact that people are now deprived of things to which they became accustomed during the flush times which succeeded the war.

Another fact which is ordinarily overlooked is that the hard times are not confined to this country. While our Democratic orators and speakers attribute all our misfortunes to the Republican party, we find many other countries which have no Republican party in them suffering in a great deal the same manner. This fact shows clearly that while our financial troubles may be aggravated by local causes there are general reasons for them not under our control, even with the wisest statesmanship.

Those who are disposed to take a despondent view of the condition of our Republic would, if familiar with the depression which prevails in nearly every country abroad, find many reasons for rejoicing in our relative prosperity. England is suffering from a general falling off of incomes, the commercial and manufacturing interests of Germany are deranged, and throughout the entire continent the complaints about hard times are just as loud as those which we hear in our own country. There is anxiety and suffering everywhere, while, if we turn to India, we find a famine raging there which it is estimated will destroy at least six millions of lives before it is ended.

Hard as the times are in this country, we have much to be thankful for, especially when it is considered that our abundant crops will prevent much suffering for want of food. A great deal of our trouble arises from over-production and over-straining our credit to build unproductive railroads. Vast amounts of our accumulated wealth have been destroyed by the Chicago and Boston fires and numerous other conflagrations. Our railroad, municipal and national indebtedness abroad drains the country of vast sums to pay interest. Manifestly the surest way of restoring prosperity is by economy and such retrenchment of expenses as will enable us to free the country from the great burden of foreign indebtedness from which it is now suffering.

DIPLOMATIC.

A recent article in the Sandusky (Ohio) *Register* says:

His many friends in Ohio, where he lived for upwards of twenty years before going to California, in '67, will be gratified to learn that BENJAMIN F. PEIXOTTO, of San Francisco, will probably be our new consul general to Berlin, succeeding Mr. KREISMAN, who has held the position for the last fifteen years—quite long enough for a "native," according to the rule of JEFFERSON and MONROE, and to be revived and adopted by the State Department, and surely long enough, if not too long, for one of foreign birth. Mr. PEIXOTTO is a native of the city of New York, a thorough American, whose travel and foreign experience have not spoiled; on the contrary, rendered only the more intensely patriotic and republican. He is an accomplished scholar, a linguist and a gentleman of unblemished character, and will properly represent American commercial interests abroad.

We learn that the *Register* is mistaken as to the destination of Mr. PEIXOTTO, and that it is probable the Government will ask him to accept the position of consul general at Cairo. Mr. PEIXOTTO's scholarship, and his extended oriental experience and knowledge of the commerce of the East, would render his appointment to that post one eminently fit to be made. Inasmuch as it is understood that Mr. EVARTS intends to select all his diplomatic appointees with special reference to their qualifications for the service, there can be no question but that if Mr. PEIXOTTO is tried by such a test he would be found worthy of any position in the consular service, however important or responsible the same may be.

THE STATE OF OHIO having given the nation the President and sundry other high officials, undertook to restore the long-lost CHARLEY ROSS to his parents. The Ohio boy seemed to satisfy everybody except the father and mother of the lost boy, but they could not be convinced; therefore, this Ohio enterprise failed.

IT IS SAID that the telegraph monopoly will not advance rates upon lines where such an advance might lead to the formation of rival companies, but whenever they have no reason to fear such rivalry the rates will be advanced in the most exorbitant manner. Telegraph monopolies form no exception to the old maxim of the law which teaches that corporations have no souls.

THE idea of establishing savings banks in connection with the post-offices is gaining in popularity every day. The Chicago *Tribune* suggests making the registry class of post-offices banks of deposit because they are the larger ones, and the Government has special money dealings with them now. The expense of carrying on the business through the post-offices would be very light indeed. The experiment has been tried in England, and has been very successful there, and the post-office savings banks there are constantly gaining in popularity.

THE CHARLEY ROSS mystery is still unsolved. The Ohio boy was not the real CHARLEY.

BOSTON has been treated to a savings bank failure. Another argument in favor of post office savings banks.

BRIGHAM YOUNG escaped the hangman's hands only to be killed by the united efforts of four doctors. Unhappy BRIGHAM!

BISHOP ROSECRANS claims that the political anti-Catholic movement in Ohio last year has greatly strengthened the Church in his diocese by bringing into it many Americans.

PERSONAL.

A LETTER from Rome, dated August 15, says that the Pope is fairly well. He preserves his mental activity, but often loses his memory of things that happened over night, and has alarming attacks of syncope. His legs will not support him. Strong as is his constitution, his physicians do not think that he can long survive.

HERE are Liszt and Wagner strolling in friendly conversation through the park at Weimar: Liszt in dusty old abbe-coat, his long, white hair falling on his shoulders, and his pale, thin face disfigured by the large warts of which his photographers have given us no hint; Wagner, in marked contrast to his father-in-law, short and study, with a most genial smile on his fine, open countenance.

MARK TWAIN'S birthplace was Hannibal, Mo., and the house in which he was born, a miserable wreck of a building, is still standing on Third street, between Bird and Hill. It is the residence of a wretchedly poor family, employed in varnishing furniture. Mark's bedroom is reached by a crazy ladder, the floor is full of holes, the plaster has peeled away from the ceiling and the whole place is a desolation.

CHANGARNIER was only afraid of one thing—a draught. During an attack on a detachment of Arabs posted in a narrow ravine, Changarnier was seen sitting calmly on horseback with his arms crossed in the midst of a hail of bullets. "Look out, Colonel," said an officer; "you should take more precaution. You are exposing yourself." "Oh, thanks," answered Changarnier, mistaking the cause of the other's solicitude, "I'll muffle up," and he turned his coat collar up round his ears.

A COUNTERFEITER'S philanthrophy may be genuine, and then again it may not. Thomas Ballard is now confined in the Albany penitentiary under sentence of thirty years' imprisonment, of which he has yet over twenty-seven years to serve. He was convicted of having in his possession a plate from which counterfeit notes were printed. He now offers to the Government knowledge derived in his business, the application of which, he says, will render the counterfeiting of its notes impossible in the future. He says the blue and red fibres which now mark the paper used are too easily woven in by hand, and he proposes to construct a machine which will manufacture paper that cannot be imitated by any of the ordinary processes. He also to supplant the red and blue fibres and the local stripe of color which now marks the paper used by the Government, by eagles, liberty heads, stars and other devices which may be selected, to be struck from some substance having a metallic appearance and inserted in the paper in such a way as to be ineffaceable. He professes that his only motive in urging the adoption of his plan is to render counterfeiting so difficult that others will be saved from suffering such penalties as have been inflicted upon him.

SIGNOR TAMBURLANI, who was engaged for many years about the person of the late Cardinal Antonelli, as chamberlain, has recently given testimony in favor of the claims of the Countess Lambertini. He stated that whenever his master was expecting to be visited by a lady, he used to say to his valet, "Angelo, I am unwell to-day, do not let any one see me." Tamburlani confessed that it was a long time before he discovered the true meaning of Cardinal Antonelli's frequent illness, but the moment he was shown the portrait of the Countess Lambertini's mother, he recognized her as the lady who often visited the Cardinal in the Vatican. The Roman correspondent of the *Boder Nachrichten* states that the Deputy Trajani, who is counsellor for the Cardinal's reputed daughter, was informed by a Cabinet minister that the Pope had written a letter to the King of Italy, entreating him to use his power to arrest this disreputable and damaging case. The King is said to have replied that he was not in a position to influence the course of the law. This is a very doubtful story.

THE picture of Andromeda, recently stolen from Dr. S. D. Surney, of Circleville, Ohio, and purchased by him of the heirs of Baron Rudolph de Steiguer, who came to this country half a century ago from Berne, Switzerland, covered a canvas about four feet square. It was the work of an unknown hand, and from its style was thought to be about four hundred years old. The background is a black precipice, showing a stormy sky and a troubled sea at the left of the picture. Chained to the rock by bands around her wrists stands the fair maiden, her dark blue green mantle held by a slender, rosy cord, but slipping below her waist on one side and almost to her knee on the other. She is uncrowned, save by the loveliest golden hair, and the face is attractive from its expression rather than from any ideal beauty. Attention was recently directed to the painting by an article in a Cincinnati paper, which called forth a reply from W. A. Taylor, of Pittsburg. This gentleman asserted that he had purchased the picture from one of Gen. Sherman's "bummers," who had stolen it from the Rhett mansion, in South Carolina, and that it had subsequently been taken from his office. These articles have undoubtedly caught the eyes of thieves, who have imagined that the owner would offer a large reward for his picture. When they stole it they cut the canvas from the frame.

THE ERRING BRETHREN.

A TENNESSEE REPUBLICAN UPON THE SUBJECT—WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT POSTMASTER GENERAL KEY'S NEW ENGLAND SPEECHES—A SOUND VIEW OF THE MATTER.

The following letter is from a Tennessee Republican, "native there and to the manner born," as he observes, and who is familiar with the facts and circumstances attending Mr. Key's canvass before the Tennessee Legislature last winter, and who subsequently, with other Tennesseans, urged Mr. Key's appointment to a place in the Cabinet, visiting the President upon the subject:

The effect to do justice to and by all public men which characterizes your paper prompts me to say a word upon a subject trivial in itself, but magnified by a disgruntled press and scheming politicians into undue proportions. That Mr. Key, in referring to the people of the South—late soldiers and non-combatants alike—as "erring brethren" is "most true," that he did it in the spirit which has been imputed to him is both unnatural and untrue. The motives that have been set forth as prompting the reference needs no refutation but a simple denial, which he has not spoken by word of mouth, simply because the man himself and his whole life stand forth as the most crushing of denials. Therefore, it would not be becoming in me or any one else to dwell upon or argue this particular point. But it is not proper that we should try and learn the lesson taught thinking and patriotic people by this outburst of hot-headed disgust and "holy horror" emitted from the volcanic brains of sensational and witty (?) editors and hair-splitting politicians?

In the first place, let the people of the North understand that Mr. Key, in expressing cordiality of feeling and prayerful hope that the much-talked-of unity of feeling between the sections, represents the true manhood of the South, "one of whom he is which," the soldiers who fought the battles of that war, brought on by the same class of newspapers and political screeheads that would now heap continuely upon his head. I say his words of "peace on earth, good-will toward men," is nothing but the expression of the throbbing of that great heart that energizes the true South to-day.

It is a notorious fact that the newspapers of the South, as a rule, do not reflect the opinion or the public feeling of the people. It is but natural that such should be the case under such circumstances. Take Tennessee, for instance; she has not over half a dozen daily papers in the whole State. They cost as much as your newsiest metropolitan paper. The people are impoverished in consequence of the late war; they curse the "newspapers and politicians, and preachers" to this day for dragging them into a war. The standard of education in Tennessee is not so high as in many other States, and, as a natural consequence, the desire for newspapers is not so general; railroad facilities are limited, and the people are comparatively shut out. The consequence is, the real people of the State (and it is about the same all over the South) are, as a measure, at the mercy of the political demagogue and the blatant newspaper. Hence, you see, the average newspaper can become an "organ," shout "the dear people," howl at the National Government, cry "havock," (and "let slip the dogs of war," too, if they dared) and besmirch any man with mud who attempts to stand upon his feet like a man and represent the real sentiments of that people, whom, I protest, are loyal to the core, and yearn for peace, and will have it.

As evidence of the truth of my statement permit me to remind you of the late canvass in Tennessee. Mr. Key was a candidate for re-election to the Senate, holding his seat then by virtue of an appointment made by Governor Porter upon the death of the "Great Commoner." Mr. Key had unfortunately (?) made a "radical" speech upon the subject of opening up the Mississippi case in the Senate, and the whole Democratic press, from "Carter to Shelby," (Keliar's Arkansas being an honorable exception,) led on by the columbiad dailies, and "hooped-up" by all the "pennyroyal" pop-guns in the State, opened up such a fusillade upon him as was never seen nor heard before.

An outsider looking on (as they are now doing in this fresh attack) would have imagined that to propose the name of Key for Senator upon the convening of the Legislature would subject the offender to a volley of hisses and a summary dismissal from the body. Did it? Mr. Key returned to Tennessee, entered the field calmly, made the canvass with that imperturbable dignity and manly courage which characterizes the man. What was the result? *The people* hearkened to his words; they heard "peace" from his lips; they saw an honest man looking them square in the face, and spite of the war of newspapers and politicians, he received 45 votes, 48 being the number required to elect.

Almost immediately thereafter he was called here to represent that people, and all the people of the whole country in the "council-house" of the nation; and almost the first word he spoke is made the one for just the same old war of words. But it will not avail. Those who did the fighting, and who are suffering now in consequence, and those who were loyal through it all, alike hold up the hands of any man who is striving to do his duty, and thereby gain the good will of those whose minds the fire-eaters would poison against the whole people of the south. When Mr. Key went into the Senate he did so knowing the sentiment of the South and the forbearing manhood of that people; hundreds and thousands of letters poured through the mails to him urging him to accept, and thanking God that the day of reconciliation in fact was coming; that an Executive was handling the reins of government who dared meet the question face to face, and they rejoiced to be able to furnish a man to meet him and represent them in that same spirit. And, Mr. Editor, they are not the people to be turned aside from purposes and hopes which lie so near their hearts by a mere joke. The newspapers, in their phrensy, and the country stump orator may get them to believe Mr. Key is a poor hand at a joke, but that is about all they will accomplish.

Then let the people of the North, the East and the West know that this fire-eating talk in the South and this same old "Copperhead" in the North does injustice to the South, in that they misrepresent her people. They dragged them in once; they will never do it again. Mark my work that when the Presidential party go south in a few weeks Mr. Key will be welcomed everywhere with jovial cordiality, as will the President, and the moment they pass Mason and Dixon's line "Hayes and Key" will sound forth from the o'er-fraught hearts of that great and grateful people. I am not one of the "erring brethren," never having had a thought in sympathy with that side, but like Key, being a Tennessean "native and to the manner born," they are mine and I am theirs, and I rejoice in an opportunity to pay tribute to the loyalty of that people with whom I differed, with whom I now differ as to "party," but who are as loyal as I or any other man can be. It is an additional pleasure to be able to do this, standing merely upon the plane of citizenship, and not to speak it from the more elevated plateau of the office holder. TENNESSEE REPUBLICAN.

HAYES SHOULD SEE THE SOUTHERN PEOPLE AT HOME.

From the Lynchburg Virginian:

We want the President to see our people at home, and not judge them by the fawning sycophants or mendacious slanderers who would sometimes represent, or rather misrepresent them, in stolen interviews at the White House. And we want our people to see and converse with this mild-mannered, well behaved, and most courteous gentleman. We believe that good will result from such interviews and exchange of civilities; and if we are ever to rise above the prejudices of the past, to reconcile what should be fraternal feuds, and to revive our interest in as well as assert our rights under the Government of our fathers, this is one of the means that should be employed to secure these ends. It is high time to change our policy in this regard, and look to our interests, if nothing more. And these will be best subserved by a cheerful recognition of the Powers-that-be, whether they are of our ordaining or not. The Southern people have an opportunity to make a fast friend of Mr. Hayes; to dissipate the idea that they are sullen and vengeful—which his enemies and others, of the North, would have that section believe—and to bring about, with his co-operation, an era of good feeling such as the country has not known for half a century. Surely this were a consummation devoutly to be wished, and to secure which all good men will contribute their best exertions.

A NEW ERA FOR THE AGRICULTURE OF THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD.

From the Richmond Enquirer:

We are now about to enter upon that stage in the agricultural history of the country when men of industry and enterprise will find it more profitable to take up and renovate the naturally fertile but worn soils of the States that lie along the Atlantic seaboard than to open up new farms at the West. It might require in the first case a little more patient waiting before the lands could be restored to their original fertility, but their greater value when once renovated, and the better prices to be paid for their products, would more than compensate for the delay, and in the meanwhile the men who were thus making "two blades of grass grow where but one grew before" would be enjoying for themselves and their families those social and material advantages which all desire, and that can only be had in long-settled and populous States.

EFFICACY OF DODGING.

From the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle:

The policy of the State convention seems obvious. It should formulate unequivocally Republican principles. It should be distinct in its enunciation of State issues. It should neither endorse nor condemn measures which are simply the work of the Administration, and independent of Republican thought. Thus affirmatively decided and negatively conciliatory, the Republican party may achieve success by deserving it. Thus it may be able to rout the Democracy, already weakened and distracted. Thus it may secure a victory, which will be a Republican victory—not an Administration nor an anti-Administration victory. Thus out of harmony shall triumph ensue. On essentials utterance, on non-essentials silence.

THE REIGN OF UNIVERSAL PEACE.

From the New York Tribune:

When the coming soldiers' convention shall have been held at Marietta the picturesque element in the work of national reconciliation will have been exhausted. When veteran veterans meet in a formal but friendly reunion such Confederate Generals as John B. Hood and Joseph E. Johnston, and the President of the United States, himself a brave Union soldier, joins in this singular celebration, it will be well-nigh impossible to do anything dramatic or startling in the way of clasping hands over the place where the "bloody chasm" used to be. This seems to be the climax.

THE PRESIDENT INVITED TO LYNCHBURG.

From the Lynchburg Virginian:

It was a ground for complaint with the people of the South that the late President never manifested any disposition to become acquainted with their section, but, in all his journeyings—which were frequent and protracted—persistently ignored and studiously avoided this part of the Union, and gave his ear only to those who, though among us were not of us. We knew President Grant only by his mailed hand, and the heavy exactions he laid upon us. But Mr. Hayes has shown a very different spirit, and really desires to be brought in contact with the good people of the South—those who "are native and to the manner born" to see them at their homes, and to talk with them face to face. This is commendable in him, and we should be more than willing to greet him in our section, and receive him with the honor due to the office of President of the United States. We can surely afford to do what the people of Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond have done—invite this Northern Republican, but, as we believe, truly American President to visit our city; nor should we consent to be outdone in civility by our fellow-citizens in the localities above named.

HOW TO AVOID STRIKES.

From the Boston Advertiser:

The Michigan Central railroad has adjusted its wages so as to reduce almost to zero the liability to strikes. In the salaries of engineers continuity and length of service are factors having material weight, and a direct money reward is thus offered for faithfulness, sobriety, and the skill which comes from long experience. The new rates result now in an average increase of 6 per cent. in wages, which certainly will not cause any rioting. This agreement by the road—for it practically amounts to that—to make allowance for length of service is worthy the attention of other roads, not as a help to avoid disastrous strikes, but as an inducement to contented work in one position on the part of the employees, and a stimulant to excellence in that field of labor.

THE FOLLY OF INDIAN TREATIES.

From the New York Times:

It is finally concluded that a commission shall be sent into Canada to treat with Sitting Bull, whom the Government officers believe to be at his old camp across the border. We can only hope that the commission will make no promises which cannot or will not be kept. There has been too much negotiation which resulted in nothing but disappointment and renewed quarreling on both sides. Sitting Bull is not a model of good faith himself, but his conduct compares very favorably with that of the United States Government as a whole.

IOWA WANTS POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

From the Burlington Hawkeye:

The proposition commends itself of being a benefit both to the Government in affording a low rate of interest and to the frugal laboring people of the country in offering absolute security for the meagre savings which they are able to lay by. Savings banks too often prove to be machines by which the unscrupulous rob the unsuspecting and their failures are attended with evils more distressing than those of any other institutions.

DO NOT GO WEST.

From the Alexandria Gazette:

Within her (Virginia's) ample borders homes can be found for all who come, and, with industry and economy, all who do come can make living, if not fortunes. Within ten miles of some of her cities (this, for instance) lands can be bought as low as in the unsettled West, and if there be any doubt of their fertility, a passing glimpse of the crops already harvested and of the heavy crops now growing upon farms immediately adjoining will suffice to dispel them. Let the emigration societies turn their attention to the untilled fields of Virginia, if they wish to consult the health, happiness and prosperity of the emigrants.

PATTI'S INTENTIONS.

From the London Figaro:

Mr. Franchi, the secretary of Mme. Patti, paid William Leon Escudier £2,000 sterling as a forfeit for resigning her engagement at the Paris Italian opera. She promises, however, should she decide to appear in Paris, to sing for nobody but him. She has refused to sign any re-engagement with Mr. Gye, or to go to America with Mr. Strakosch, agreeing at the same time, in case of going there, to sing for no one else. She desires complete rest and retirement, and will not sing until the next London season, if then.

A DANGER POINTED OUT.

From the Denver Tribune:

A President, from the demonstration naturally made over him while on his travel among the people, is in danger of being impressed with an undue idea of his personal strength and popularity. Respect to the office is likely to be mistaken for admiration to the man. Popular curiosity to see a President is apt to pass for an ardent and prevalent desire to pay homage to an individual. Presidential tours have not in the past been an eminent success. Jefferson set an excellent precedent in deciding that they were not advisable.

THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENT.

THE STREET HUCKSTERS MUST TAKE OUT A LICENSE—THE ASSESSORS SITTING AS AN APPEAL BOARD.

It was a remarkably quiet day at the Columbia Building yesterday, there being few visitors calling that had axes to grind. Commissioner Phelps has not yet returned from Oakland, Md., where his family is sojourning, and Commissioner Bryan was absent half a day in attendance on his family, who have just got back from the West.

The trustees of the public schools have been granted permission to rent a building near the Freedmen's hospital on Seventh street northwest, in which to establish an additional school for the county.

Licenses have been issued as follows: Jno. Kane, hack No. 5; J. O. Roller, commission merchant; B. Smith, ball; J. Smith, restaurant; J. R. Barr, returns Lycoming Fire Insurance Company.

After a lengthy consultation with the District Attorney the Commissioners have decided that the street hucksters shall be forced to take out a license or be prosecuted for trading without one. They will be given ten days in which to reach a decision, and then if they continue to sell without obtaining a license the arrests will be made and the cases tried in the Police Court.

The assessors are now sitting to hear appeals in cases where assessments are considered erroneous. They will sit during the present month, after which time assessments not modified must stand.

Permits to build have been issued as follows: James White, raise a brick dwelling, corner M and Twelfth streets and Massachusetts avenue northwest; $750. James Towles, extend a brick dwelling on Indiana avenue, between Third and Four-and-a-half streets; $150. Evans & McLoud, construct a frame shed on B, between First and Second streets southwest; $75. Wm. Culver, repair a brick dwelling on A, between Second and Third streets; $125. J. M. Wright, repair a three-story brick dwelling on Massachusetts avenue, between Fourth and Fifth streets northwest; $50. J. W. Dick, repair a frame dwelling, New York avenue, between Fourth and Fifth streets northwest; $150. Conrad Weiss, extend a frame dwelling on East Capitol street, between Eighth and Ninth streets; $800. J. H. Campbell, a brick dwelling on B street, between First and Second streets; $100. H. Detrick, repair a brick dwelling and store on Seventh street, between G and H streets northwest; $600. James Carrico, construct a two-story brick dwelling on Twentieth street, between E and F streets northwest; $1,000.

A LIVELY DASH.

Considerable excitement was created on Pennsylvania avenue yesterday afternoon by a double team, attached to a Clarence carriage, dashing along this thoroughfare at a frightful rate of speed. The turnout belonged to Mr. Allison Nailor, jr., liveryman, and had been hired out to and was occupied by Messrs. A. J. Falls, J. E. Fitch and W. B. Pendrick, who were en route to the Reform School to attend the monthly meeting of the board of trustees. The horses first became frightened near the Riggs house and started off, the driver, John Page, unsuccessfully exerting himself to control them. They continued along the Avenue, increasing their gait and making the situation of the inmates of the vehicle more perilous every minute.

When the team reached the reservation opposite the Centre market the parties inside the Clarence concluded that safety lay in getting out as quickly as possible. Messrs Pendrick and Fitch leaped to the street and escaped with only a good dusting. Mr. Falls was not so fortunate, for when he jumped the momentum of the carriage threw him forward, and after struggling to retain his feet he fell. He struck the railroad track and received severe injuries about the mouth and forehead, also smashing his watch. His friends came to his assistance and he was taken home.

John Page, the driver, clung to the horses with wonderful pluck and endurance, and after running the gauntlet of the numerous wagons that filled the street, he rounded Capitol Hill in good order. On reaching the top a man jumped off a coal cart and seized the bridle of one of the high-mettled animals and brought them to a stand. When the excitement had subsided the courageous driver, bound to be victorious, turned the team about and carried them in safety to the stable without any damage having been done to either horses or carriage.

A NICE SUMMER RESORT.

MOUNT WASHINGTON, N. H., Sept. 3.—A heavy snow storm is now prevailing here. It commenced at 8 o'clock this morning. The thermometer indicates 31 degrees at the base of the mountains, where it is raining hard. This is the first snow storm on the summit of Mount Washington since the 23d of June. The month just passed is the first August without a snow storm this for a number of years.

THOSE who have rooms to rent reach each member of Congress by advertising in the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, as this journal is daily mailed to every Senator and Representative.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Finance.

WASHINGTON, September 3, 1877.

In New York to-day money was easy at 4 Exchange dull at 4¾. Gold quiet at 100⅛. Gold to carry, 2.

Government bonds firm at the following quotations:

1881's, coupons	113½	1867's	110¼
1881's, new	113½	New fives	109½
1867's	112¾	Ten-forties	109¾

State bonds active.

The following are the closing rates for State securities, as telegraphed from the New York Stock Exchange:

Tennessee 6's, old	44½	S. Carolina, A. & O.	22
do. new	43½	Missouri	105
do. series	43½	Missouri and St. Jo.	94½
Virginia sixes	35	Louisiana 6's	42
do. new	31	do. new	32
do. consol	78	Levee 6's	32
do. deferred	10	Levee 7's	32
Georgia 6's	95½	Alabama 5's	20
do. 7's	109	do 8's	20
do. gold bonds	105	Arkansas 6's	15
North Carolina, old	27½	do. 10's	54
do. new	7½	do. 3's	7
North Carolina s. tax	11½	Louisiana 7's	48
South Carolina, old	32	do. Con	48
South Carolina, new	42	Gold	100⅛

Stocks stronger.

The following are the opening and closing prices for the active stocks, as telegraphed to H. D. Cooke, jr., & Co. from the New York Stock Exchange:

	Sales	Opening	Closing
	no'd.	prices.	prices.
Pacific Mail	1,200	24⅝	24⅞
Western Union	17,200	81⅝	81⅞
Chicago and Northwestern	7,300	32⅞	31⅞
do. preferred	14,600	42⅞	44⅛
Rock Island	7,700	104⅝	104⅝
Saint Paul	9,600	31	32
do. preferred	8,700	67	68
C. C. and I. C.		4½	4½
N. Y. Central	6,400	93	93⅞
Hannibal and St. Joseph	300	12	12
Lake Shore	28,800	61	64⅞
New York Central	2,700	101⅞	102⅞
Ohio and Mississippi	4,900	6⅝	6⅝
Wabash	3,900	14	13⅞
Union Pacific	200	70	70
Missouri Pacific			
Michigan Central	6,000	57	57
Delaware and Hudson	3,600	49⅞	51⅞
Jersey Central	1,200	18⅞	19
Delaware, Lack. and Western	28,500	80⅞	82
Gold to carry		2	2
Money		4	4
Gold		100⅛	100⅛

The following are the buying and selling rates for Government securities:

Securities.	Buying.	Selling.
U. S. sixes, 1881, registered	110⅝	110⅞
Five-twenties, J. and J., 1865	109⅞	110
Five-twenties, J. and J., 1867	109⅞	
Five-twenties, J. and J., 1868	109⅞	
Ten-forties	109⅞	
New five per cents	109⅞	109⅞
Currency sixes	123	
Congress guaranteed 5s		70½
6's, per cent. U. S. bonds	100⅛	100⅞
Gold	100⅛	
Foreign Exchanges:		
Three-day bills	486⅞	
Sixty-day bills	483½	

Commerce.

BALTIMORE, September 3—Sugar dull, 6¼@6¾, fair to good refining.

Coffee quiet—middling nominally 11. Flour quiet and firm—Howard street and Western super, $3 @ $4.62; do. extra, $4.75@5.50; do. family, $5@5.50; city mills super, $4@4.50; do. extra, $5@5.50; do. Ilo brands, $7@8; Patapsco family, $8.25. Wheat—Southern firm and higher. Western excited and higher; Southern red, good to prime, $1.06@1.08; do. amber, $1.08@1.09; do. white, $1.06@1.08. Pennsylvania red, $1.06@1.08; Western, receipts, 41,215 bush; do. No. 2 Winter red, spot, $1.11 September, $1.12½; October, $1.12½. Corn—Southern firmer. Western strong and higher; Southern white, 60@ do. yellow, 60; Western mixed, spot, 59@59½; September, 59½@60; October, 60@60½. Oats—Southern, 34@36; Western white, 35@36; do. mixed, 32@33; Pennsylvania, 35@36. Rye quiet, 90c. for prime. Hay steady, $17@18, good to prime Western, $20@21; Pennsylvania and Maryland, $19@$20. Provisions firm and quiet—Mess pork, $10.50. Bulk meats—Loose shoulders, 5½@5½; clear rib sides, 5½@5¾. Bacon—Shoulders, 6½@6¾; clear rib sides, 8@8½; clear, 8¾@8⅞. Lard, 8¾@9. Butter firm—Choice Western, 18@20c. Petroleum quiet—Crude, 7½@7¾; refined, 12½@ bid. Coffee dull and nominal; 16½@16¾ for Rio cargoes. Whisky dull, $1.14. Receipts—Flour, 2,840 bbls; wheat, 8,000 bush; corn, 67,000 bush; rye, bbls; shipments—Wheat, 20,000 bush; corn, 70,000.

NEW YORK, September 3.—Flour firmer. No. 2 State, $2.50@3.50; superfine State, $4.00@4.50; extra State, $4.75@5.50; superfine Western, $4.25@4.50; Southern flour in less demand, but firmer. No. 2, $3.50@$4.50; superfine, $4.00@4.25. Wheat firmer, and fairly active. Winter, cash, $1.09@1.10; do. September, $1.09@1.09½. No. 2 amber, cash, $1.09@1.10; do. September, $1.10@1.10½. No. 2 spring, cash, $1.02@1.03. Barley dull. Rye firmer. Western, $1.05@1.07. Corn—Receipts small; opened strong, but closed a little weaker; steamer, cash, 56½@57½c; October, 57½@58c. No. 2, cash, 57½c; September, 57½@58c. Oats firm, but not very active extra white, 40@42c. No. 1 do., 37@38c; extra mixed, 36@37c; No. 2 do., 35@36c. Pork very active, firmer, $10.60@10.70 cash, $12.90 bid; September half week; September, $9.85 bid; October, $9.87½ bid. Beef steady; packed, $8½ family, 9@. Cut meats steady; fresh bellies, 7½@8c; shoulders, 5½@5¾c. Lard firmer, 8 11-16@8¾c. Sugar—Raw cotton quiet; middling uplands, 12½c; fair cotton steady; September, 10.5c; October, 10.63; November, 10.85c; December, 10.9c; January, 10.97c; February, 10.97c; March, 11.08c; April, 11.20c.

DIED.

BRODERICK.—On the morning of September 2, 1877, at 6 o'clock, KATIE MAY, only child of Michael J. and Margaret Broderick, aged one year three months and eight days.

Funeral from the residence of her parents, 738 sixth street northwest, on Monday evening, September 3, at 3 o'clock.

THOMPSON.—On Monday, September 3, 1877, JOHN F. THOMPSON, in the twenty-third year of his age.

The funeral will take place from Asbury church, corner Eleventh and N streets northwest, this afternoon at 2 o'clock. Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

BAGLAND.—On Monday, September 3, 1877, at 3:10 a. m., JAMES J. BAGLAND, in the forty-eighth year of his age.

The funeral services will take place at his late residence, No. 128 Four-and-a-half street, to-morrow at 3 p. m.

ANDERSON.—On Saturday, September 1, 1877, at 4:45 a. m., ELEANOR ANDERSON, wife of William Anderson, late of the First Comptroller's office, in the eighty-second year of her age.

Her funeral will take place on Tuesday, September 4, at 3 p. m., from 1336 Rhode Island avenue northwest. The relatives and friends invited to attend.

UNDERTAKERS.

JOSEPH GAWLER,
FURNISHING UNDERTAKER,
1721 Pennsylvania avenue northwest.
"Terms reasonable." ly21-6m

MARY E. STOOPS,
EMBALMER OF NATURAL FLOWERS,
Has removed to
No. 926 F STREET NORTHWEST.
We warrant our Embalmed Flowers never to change their form or color. References—Mrs. Gen Sherman, Mrs. B. C. Cox, Mrs. John Saul, Mrs. Sec Delano, Mrs. Gen. Ballach, Mrs. Col. Alexander &c., &c. ly21-6m

R. W. BARKER,
CABINET MAKER AND UNDERTAKER,
CABINET MAKER AND UNDERTAKER,
NO. 612 ELEVENTH STREET N. W.,
BETWEEN F AND G STREETS.
Bodies Embalmed and prepared for transportation at the shortest notice. my22

R. F. HARVEY,
NO 994 F STREET NORTHWEST