The Vermont Phœnix.

BRATTLEBORO:
FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1883.

The Republican state convention in Pennsylvania has been called under the terms of the agreement made with the Independents last year. It will be held on the day specified—the second Wednesday of July—and representation is provided for all Republican voters. The practical working of the new plan will show what the chances are for reuniting the party. Both sides profess to desire harmony.

Before adjournment last week, the New York assembly passed a civil service reform bill by the remarkable vote of 90 to 2. In the Senate the bill passed unanimously. In the case of the New York legislators, as in Congress, evidently, the politicians thought it not expedient to resist public sentiment, and as a matter of policy rather than of principle made this concession for the time being. The real struggle will begin when the law comes to be executed.

Here is a refreshing bit of Southern sentiment from the Richmond, Va., Whig: "The Democratic party can never, and should never, come to the control of our national government until it renounces folly and forever all affiliation with Bourbons, and refuses to be longer *particeps criminis* in the Bourbon methods, which are still so glaringly illustrated in South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and elsewhere."

President Arthur finds civil service reform the best harmonizer and a most available weapon of defence in troublesome appointment cases. He has just filled vacancies in four important positions in the departments at Washington by promotions. In such cases disappointed office-seekers may swear and scold in private, but they dare not come out openly and abuse him or kick against the reform—and at the same time the public offices get trained men to perform their duties.

Judge Duffy has decided in his court at Baltimore that the sale of a good will without anything more does not prevent the seller from setting up a similar business next door to the business sold by him. To prevent that the purchaser must have an express contract with the seller to that effect. The law, he says, will not imply such a covenant because it is in restraint of trade, and for the same reason the sale of a sign with the firm name on it gives no exclusive right to the purchaser in the absence of an agreement for the use of the firm name.

The new law to protect primary elections in New York makes it a misdemeanor for any person to falsely personate or vote under the name of another person at such a meeting, to vote intentionally without a right to do so, to prevent others who have a right to vote, to wrongfully conceal or destroy the ballots or commit any other wrong tending to defeat the result of the election. This is good as far as it goes—and now if they will invent some law which will compel all honest voters to be present and vote, both at the elections and the primaries, we shall begin to see some specimens of aggressively clean politics.

Halifax, N. S., is in a state of alarm over mysterious rumors of a possible Fenian attack. Special policemen have been sworn in, the public buildings are watched night and day, and fifty tons of ammunition have been removed from the ordnance stores to the citadel. The authorities are close-mouthed and refuse to answer questions. The latest rumor is that they sent a detective to the late land-league convention in Philadelphia and he brought back word that the day of the execution of Brady, the Phoenix Park assassin was, to be the signal for a combined attempt at revenge whenever and wherever opportunity might offer. What originally started the scare is said to have been a story that vessels manned by Fenians had cleared from Boston for the purpose of blowing up the shipping in Halifax harbor.

Roscoe Conkling is taking every convenient occasion to advertise himself as a thoroughly soured man. At a meeting of the New York Saturday Night club last Saturday evening, Gen. Grant made some remarks on the importance of our relations with Mexico. Mr. Conkling followed him in a speech in which he declared that the defeat of Grant for a third term had "put back this country ten years," alluded to President Arthur as "the man with his feet in two boats," predicted the triumph of the Democracy, and sneered at the civil-service reformers as "those statesmen who are trying to find out what boy or what girl shall have a place in the government." This sounds well from a man who resigned his seat as a United States Senator because he could not control the patronage of the New York custom house.

The failure of the prohibitory amendment in Iowa has thrown the temperance people back upon high license for the cities and local prohibition in the smaller towns, as the only solution of the question for the present. Many of the more moderate and reasonable men are disposed to accept this as really the best that can be done. It greatly decreases the number of drinking places, improves their character, increases the responsibility of those who keep them, and makes the licensed sellers interested in preventing the unauthorized sale, besides adding largely to the public revenues. The price of licenses for the sale of wine, ale and beer ranges from $200 to $1000 a year. In Des Moines the saloon keepers rebelled at first against paying the $1000 fee; but twenty of them have thought better of it and applied for licenses. Now, with 40 per cent less saloons, the city will receive 50 per cent. more from license fees, and the men who pay the high licenses will have a personal interest in seeing that none of the lower and meaner resorts are permitted to do business.

The New York Legislature finally adjourned last Friday night with the Democratic members in a very sanguinary frame of mind. Governor Cleveland "ignored" Tammany in his appointments, a large number of which, notably that of W. H. Murtha of Brooklyn for commissioner of immigration, were left unconfirmed at adjournment. The Governor sent a message to the Senate, just before adjournment, in which he said that the present management of the immigration department is "a scandal and reproach to civilization;" that it has recklessly squandered the money of the state; and that the immigrants, instead of being protected by it, are remorselessly fleeced and swindled. He also charged that the failure of the Senate to act upon the nominations offered by him for the purpose of giving effect to a remedial law recently passed, was owing to the "over-weening greed" for spoil among the politicians composing that body, and their desire to continue the existing abuses, all of which means war to the knife once more between Tammany and the rest of the party in the state.

It is announced that the civil-service rules which are summarized elsewhere in this issue, have received President Arthur's approval, with only a few minor and unimportant changes. No fault can be found with the rules on the score of unfairness, insincerity or difficulty of comprehension. They are admirably simple, and they represent a faithful and studious attempt to execute the spirit as well as the letter of the law. In view of the simple and elementary character of the examinations provided for, the sneering charge that civil service reform aims to limit appointments to "college graduates" will scarcely be repeated. The only bungling feature about the rules is the endeavor to meet the necessity of apportioning appointments among the states. For that the commission are not responsible; they have done the best they could with an anomalous and alien provision, a relic of the old theory of offices and office holding. For the rest it may be said that six months of actual trial of the rules will do more than any amount of discussion or criticism can do to show their real strength or weakness.

Mrs. Clara T. Leonard of Springfield, Mass., a member of the state board of health of that state, has published her account of the present condition of the Tewksbury almshouse. In the last two years she has visited the institution twice, "both times without notice," spending "the entire day." She "found scrupulous neatness everywhere, beds seemed good, bread and food also, and she heard no complaints." She also affirms that "the charges now made are not new; they are old ones revived; nearly all of these abuses have been rectified, and the frequent visits of two benevolent women on the board of trustees is a great safeguard." "I have been several times assured," she continues, "by experts from other states, one a well known physician of Philadelphia, that Tewksbury is the best managed institution of the kind in the country; that is, as a large state almshouse. Still it can be improved. The public are now being filled with false impressions and greatly overstated accounts of it. Probably the final result will be to place the institution under such medical treatment as other large hospitals, and to cause much improvement in detail." Mrs. Leonard's statement is at least sufficient to show that there are two sides to the Tewksbury business which Butler has seized upon and is working for all it is worth, not to benefit the paupers or the commonwealth of Massachusetts, but simply as a diversion for political effect.

### The Civil Service Rules.

The New York Times publishes a draft of the new civil service rules which have been submitted by the civil service commission to the President, and are understood to meet with his approval. The first two rules forbid any official to use his influence to coerce the political action of any person or body or to interfere with any election, and declare that no person in the service shall be removed or prejudiced in any way for failure to contribute to any political fund or to render any political service. This is a reaffirmation of the principles of the civil service act and forms a proper starting point for the detailed rules which follow.

The branches of the service affected by the act are defined in three groups: "The classified service at Washington," comprising the departments at Washington; "The classified customs service," comprising the offices classified under any collector, naval officer, surveyor or appraiser in any customs district; and "The classified postal service," comprising the offices classified at any post office, including Washington. The customs districts, which, by reason of having as many as fifty officials, come under the rules, are New York, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Baltimore, New Orleans, Chicago, Burlington, this state, Portland, Me., Detroit and Port Huron. The post offices are Albany, Baltimore, Boston, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Louisville, Milwaukee, Newark, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Providence, Rochester, St. Louis, San Francisco and Washington. It is provided that the open competitive examinations for applicants for admission to or promotion in the public service shall be practical and shall have regard, as far as may be, to the special duties required. The general examinations for admission are limited to penmanship, copying and letter-writing; arithmetic, fundamental rules, fractions and percentage; interest, discount and elements of book-keeping and of accounts; elements of the English language, especially orthography and the proper construction of sentences; and elements of the geography, history and government of the United States. The applicant must attain at least 65 per cent. in the first three groups of subjects, and at least 50 per cent. in the last two. The commission is empowered to limit the examination to the first two groups of subjects, in competition for places in which a lower degree of education will suffice, or to hold higher grade examinations as a test of fitness for a special place or branch of the service. No disclosure is to be allowed of the religious or political opinions of the applicants; but every applicant is required to make oath to sundry facts, among them age, moral character, health, capacity, and qualification under the clause forbidding the appointment of any person habitually using intoxicating beverages to excess. For the classified postal service applicants must not be under 16 or over 35 years, for the classified customs service or the classified service at Washington they must not be under 18 or over 45 years, and no one under 21 years can be examined for a customs inspector. The maximum limitations of age do not apply in the case of persons honorably discharged from the army or naval service during the last war, and otherwise qualified.

Provisions are made for examinations at convenient points in the several states and territories, and for observing as far as possible the apportionment of appointments. When a vacancy occurs, the three highest names on the register of the commission or examining board are to be sent to the officer having the power of appointment, from which they may select one—sex being disregarded, unless the officer designates from which sex he desires an applicant. Original appointments are to be for a probationary period of six months, at the end of which time the appointment shall be made absolute if the probationer gives satisfaction. Finally, any violation of these rules, or of the sections of the civil service act relating to political assessments, is declared to be good cause for removal.

### Senator Morrill on the New Tariff.

(From the Boston Traveler.)

Since the adjournment of Congress and the passage of the new tariff law, Senator Sherman, who, during the tariff discussion was specially active in the interests of the wool producers and the iron manufacturers, has seen fit to denounce that portion of the law relating to iron and wool, and to criticise the make-up of the Senate conference committee through which the bill as passed was finally reported. The complaint made by the Ohio Senator was that the law was unfair to the wool growers of his state in that a greater reduction of duty was made on wool than woolens, and that the metallic schedule as compared with the rest of the law was unequal and unjust. His criticisms and complaints have recently been brought to the notice of Senator Morrill of Vermont, and the Vermont Senator, contrary to his usual custom of not talking matters of legislation out of the Senate, has very thoroughly and conclusively answered the criticisms that have been made. No man is better known throughout the country as a consistent protectionist than he, and probably no member of either branch of Congress has made the tariff question the subject of so careful and thorough study. He shows at length, and conclusively, the falsity of General Sherman's strictures, proving, by comparison, that the reduction of duty on woolens is larger in percentage, and tenfold greater in the aggregate, than on wools, and calls attention to the significant fact that when the metal schedule was under consideration, Senator Sherman even, when he found himself unable to raise the rates fixed on pig iron, in which he was especially interested, joined the free traders in cutting dow the rates on bar iron and upon steel railway bars. The difference between the two Senators seems to be that while they are both protectionists, Senator Sherman directs his chief care and attention to pig-iron and wool, justifying the late Democratic presidential candidate in his much criticised and ridiculed assertion that the tariff question is a mere local issue, while Senator Morrill represents the sentiment of the Republican party in believing that it is a broad national question, embracing a diversity of interests, and is to be dealt with as such. Senator Morrill has recently returned from an extended trip through the south, and has made a careful study of the industrial aspect of affairs in that section. What he says will have an interest for those who are clamoring for the reopening of the question next winter:

"The final passage of the measure for the reduction of taxation and the revision of the tariff appears to give great satisfaction in all parts of the country. Public opinion overwhelmingly indicates its approval. The great industrial and commercial interests no longer dread a season of doubt and idleness, but are getting ready to start with the hope of a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, when the act goes into operation and old stocks are out of the way. The measure was a financial and political necessity. * * * Already furnaces, rolling mills and machine shops are springing up as by magic. Those which are economically managed will return profits; but it is a mistake to suppose that iron will be produced so cheaply there as to produce an immediate revolution in the trade. Most likely, however, the southwestern markets will soon seek for their supplies in this quarter, as the industry has awakened a good deal of enthusiasm among the people, who seem resolved to push their good fortunes."

### What was "Put Back."

The New York Tribune tells Mr. Conkling that it was not the country, but, instead, these several things that the Chicago convention of 1880 "put back:"

The third term conspiracy was put back.
The unit rule was put back.
The boss system was put back.
The snap primary plan of turning out "instructed" delegates was put back.
The attempt to throttle district representation was put back.
The machine in New York and Pennsylvania was put back.
The idea entertained by sundry gentlemen that they carried the party round in their collective breeches pockets was put back.
The impression that was rapidly making headway that "government of the people by the people" was played out was put back.

### MINOR NOTES.

There was a total eclipse of the sun on Sunday, visible in its totality only in the Pacific Ocean. Scientific parties viewed it from the Caroline and Flint Islands, and important results are expected from their observations.

It is authoritatively announced that the forty millions of six per cent bonds contracted for by a syndicate, to be issued by the Northern Pacific Railroad company, have been sold, and that through trains are expected to be run over this line in September next.

The statement published early this week, that President Arthur was to spend the 4th of July next in Woodstock, Conn., as the guest of Henry C. Bowen, proves to be a mistake. It is ex-President Hayes who has accepted an invitation to Bowen's annual celebration.

A novel way of preventing the passage of bills obnoxious to the lobby was developed during the closing hours of the session of the Democratic legislation at Albany. The engrossed bills were stolen from the clerk's desk, and could not be read.

The Governor of New Jersey can certainly go to the head. He vetoed four bills and then, after the Legislature had adjourned and couldn't act on his vetoes, he killed thirty-nine more.

The Rev. Dr. A. A. Miner celebrated on Sunday last the 35th anniversary of his settlement as pastor of the Columbus-Avenue Universalist church in Boston, Mass. In a sermon suggested by the event he said he had during his pastorate performed the marriage ceremony 2,505 times and officiated at 1,904 funerals.

The Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives have adopted a resolution in recognition of the integrity, ability, and services of the late Oakes Ames. This resolution asks the national Congress to take action of the same kind.

In a meeting at Cooper Institute on Sunday evening Mr. Sankey said the work of Mr. Moody and himself in Europe had been very successful. In Paris the meetings were wonderfully successful, and there, as in the twenty-two towns and cities visited in Great Britain, a popular interest was aroused which exceeded all calculation. The evangelists will return to Great Britain in October, when they will stop at Queenstown, and after a visit to several towns in the south of Ireland will proceed to London to devote the rest of their time to that city. They are having two monster portable iron tabernacles made for use there.

Georgia has elected a successor to Governor Stephens on a total vote of only 24,000, and with only 334 votes cast against the Democratic candidate.

There is a characteristic grimness even in Gen. Grant's humor. Responding to a toast to "The United States" at the New York chamber of commerce dinner, he said he wouldn't repeat Mr. Bancroft's history, but give the reporters leave to publish it as a prelude to his remarks.

It is estimated at the post-office department that, under the recent change in computing the commissions of fourth-class postmasters, an expenditure of about $600,000 more than that which would have been required under the old law will be necessary to settle the accounts of fourth-class offices up to Oct. 1, when the 2-cent postage law goes into operation.

Nearly 20,000 immigrants landed at Castle Garden last week, and the engagements for passage from Europe indicate that the total number for May will reach a hundred thousand. Though the flow of foreign population to our shores is not so great this year as during the two preceding, it is still enormous, and war, military oppression, famine or industrial expense may at any time increase its proportions.

An exchange says: A noted "dude" has died in Philadelphia. He was a baboon in the Zoological Garden. His postures and gait were exactly like the current American imitation of the London swell's, and he showed just about enough intelligence to complete the likeness.

Santa Fe, New Mexico, celebrates its 333d anniversary this year and calls it a "Tertio-Millennial"—one-third of a thousand years. The celebration, which will include a grand mining and industrial exhibition, will begin July 2d and continue 33 days, illustrating the three civilizations which have occupied New Mexico since its first occupation by the Spaniards in 1550.

The supreme court of Massachusetts has decided not to release Charles F. Freeman, the murderer of his own child, from the Danvers insane asylum, where he has been confined four years.

The Rev. Josiah Henson, known for many years as Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom," died on Saturday in Dresden, Ontario, in his 94th year.

Postmaster-General Gresham on Saturday morning decided that the law readjusting the salaries of postmasters of the fourth class went into effect on the passage of the act—namely, March 3. This decision has created consternation in the post-office department, and will involve an endless amount of labor before it is satisfactorily settled. Some 24,000 post offices are involved. The act specified the date October 1 for larger offices, but said nothing about the date for those of the fourth class.

The New York World has been sold for $350,000 to Joseph Pulitzer, a successful and wealthy newspaper man from St. Louis, who takes possession to-day. It continues Democratic, but will be extended and modified in some of its local features. The sale has been made in furtherance of Jay Gould's plan to close all his business interests except in railroads and telegraphs.

The inventory of Hon. George F. Edmunds shows taxable personal property of $75,000.

General Joshua L. Chamberlain, of Maine, has now almost entirely recovered from the effects of his recent surgical operation, and is able to sit up and enjoy society. In a few days he will be strong enough to travel.

Senator Morrill is now at his home in Strafford for the summer. His labors in the Senate during the winter have richly earned him a summer's rest.

It is now said that Mr. Keim will not be given his commission as civil service examiner. The commissioners are considering the names of Professor Randall Wait of the census bureau, now a resident near Boston, and of Charles Lyman, chief clerk of the United States treasurer's office, for the position.

Section thirty-two of the revised listing law holds a very innocent appearing place in that statute, but in its practical operation it is a veritable gleaner. It requires the listers of each town to report to the listers of other towns such sums as the inventories may show are due and owing from the tax-payers in their respective towns to inhabitants in other towns in the state. After the receipt of these notifications a simple suggestion from listers has been sufficient to induce tax-payers, before the expiration of grace, to add several thousand dollars to inventories previously made out and sworn to, in this and other towns in the state.—*Watchman.*

Mr. Conkling's native modesty led him into a trifling error in his speech at the Saturday Night Club last evening. It was not the failure of the Chicago Convention to nominate Gen. Grant, but Mr. Conkling's petulant retirement from the Senate that put this country back ten years.—*N. Y. Times.*

A California letter says a healthy tendency in agriculture in that state is shown by the movement to split up vast Mexican ranches in the southern part of the state and parcel them out to small farmers. A few days ago the almost royal domain of ex-Governor Pio Pico, near Los Angeles, derived from an old Spanish grant, was sold for $60,000, and will be divided into small ranches.

### *FROM THE WEST.*

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF THE COUNTRY AND PEOPLE OF MINNESOTA AND DAKOTA AS SEEN BY A YOUNG EASTERN MAN.

(Extracts from a private letter from H. H. Whitbed, son of A. Whitbed, Esq., of Vernon.)

* * About a mile from the town (Fergus Falls) is one of the highest points of land in Minnesota. From this eminence we obtained a magnificent view of the surrounding territory. To the north and east lay the rolling prairies and timber lands; to the south and west the low, flat prairies of the Red River valley. This was my first view of the rich black soil, which stretched out before us like a calm sea as far as the eye could reach. On every side of us were immense tracts of this black soil, plowed and harrowed ready for the seed, and forming a striking contrast to those portions which had not been broken, but were covered with dead prairie grass. Fergus has a foundation on which to build; it has something behind it that will push it into prominence in the future—that is, water-power. It has a fall of over 80 feet within the city limits and 200 feet within a few miles. To improve it is not expensive. The whole fall extends over a considerable distance, and the same water can be used at least seven times over. It has the best water-power west of Minneapolis, with the advantage over that city, that, while the Mississippi sometimes becomes so low as to produce a scarcity of water, the Red River at Fergus never varies over 20 inches, the numerous lakes all about holding back the water and feeding it to the manufacturing interests in plentiful and steady supplies. The town is situated at the beginning of the uplands of the Red River valley. It is free from the overflows which sometimes prevent seeding on the low lands till it is so late that not over half a crop can be raised, and is near the timber lands of the northeast. It seems to me Fergus is destined to become a large manufacturing city. Its growth may not be as rapid as some city to the west which has better distributing facilities; but whatever town may become the *commercial* city of the Red River valley, it seems to me Fergus must be the manufacturing city of that section. I have seen no city in the northwest where there are so many desirable sites for residences. The city is surrounded by beautiful eminences commanding a good view of the town and surrounding country. If one visits Fergus, he should not leave it till he has driven about the suburbs; the streets are no more attractive than those of any new western town. The city looks unfinished and crude, of course. On the principal street you will see a new brick block, on one side of which will be a cheap wooden shanty and on the other a muck-hole; but this is true of all northwestern towns west of Minneapolis.

Where will the chief commercial town of this section lie? Will it be Fergus, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, or some town not yet risen into prominence? At present Fergus doesn't seem to be as well situated for a distributing point as Fargo; and if a direct line of railroad is built from Chicago to Fargo, as is now contemplated by Chicago capitalists, thus reaching directly into the Red River valley without resorting to St. Paul as a distributing point, Fargo will stand by far the best chance of becoming the great commercial city of the valley. It is already the largest city west of Minneapolis. It has been over-boomed, but it is destined to grow. It has a horse-railroad, but I don't see how it can pay, and I understand it doesn't. At present the track is sunk under the mud. The stores are large, and contain an excellent variety of the best of wares. It seems to contain more wealth than most northwestern towns. It looks like an older city than Fergus or Grand Forks. It has a population of about 10,000. Moorhead, just across the river, has 4000. The society of Fargo is excellent—much better than in most western towns. You see nothing of the rough element on the street; not as many drinking saloons as you would expect to see in a city of its size situated in a new country. But Fargo is noted for its poker playing. Men there have made money easily; it goes in extravagant living, dissipation and gambling.

Grand Forks is a newer town than Fargo, 80 miles north. It has a population of perhaps 6000, and has the advantage over Fargo of being really the head of navigation. A few small steamers go up to Fargo, but Grand Forks is really the farthest up the river most of the steamers go. Just at present there is more building at Grand Forks than at either Fergus Falls or Fargo. Last year the town boomed; whether it will continue to do so remains to be seen.

One of the most marvelous things I have seen since I came west is the adhesiveness of Red River mud. People talk about Minneapolis mud—it isn't a comparison with Red River mud. There isn't a particle of grit in it; taste of it and it is as smooth as oil. This absence of grit, and perhaps the great amount of alkali in the soil, renders the mud very adhesive. The greatest need of Fargo and Grand Forks to-day is pavements. In Fargo there were very few vehicles of any description in the streets. It is not uncommon to see the wheels of wagons one solid mass of mud, the spaces between the spokes being completely filled. Yesterday a poor dog got stuck in the mud on the principal street, and attracted a large crowd of amused spectators by his efforts to extricate himself. In one instance, yesterday, two strong horses were unable to pull an empty wagon; in their efforts to tear themselves adrift they broke whiffletrees and harness, and left the wagon in the street. After the mud dries it forms an excellent road, hard as asphalt.

I don't see but that people are just as honest here as they are east. If a person has money here, he wants a level head on his shoulders or he will lose it. If he has a level head and money, he can do better than in the east. I heard a man in Fargo say, "If a man has money and is a d——d fool, he had better stay in the east." Wages for clerks are no higher—generally not as high—as in the east, and it costs more to live; so the net is not as large. Unless a man has some good trade—as carpenter, for instance—or has money, he better stay east till he gets money. A young man can grow faster in the west if he can once get started, but it's hard work to start. He can't make money as long as he works for somebody else; he must get into business for himself before he can save much. There are a dozen applicants for every vacant place. The west is full of young men, all seeking for the softest job. I find a great many old acquaintances whom I knew in the east in had lost track of or forgotten. One in ten have made money; the rest are barely making a living. It is the *one* we hear about east; the other nine don't howl. The *one* makes more more noise than all the rest. His eastern friends like to tell of his success in the west; they are silent regarding the others. Brains count for more than gray hairs in the west; in the east gray hairs have the preference. Land in all the principal towns is very high. In Minneapolis it sells as high as $1000 per front foot; in Fergus Falls (population 6000), for over $200 per foot; in Grand Forks for $225; in Fargo for $400. Insurance ranges from 1½ to 8 per cent, according to material and location of buildings. There is a wonderful difference in the appearance of the two cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul. Although only ten miles apart, judging from the topography of the country, the character of the buildings and the nationality of the inhabitants, one would say they were 200 miles apart. Minneapolis is as level as a floor; St. Paul is all hills and bluffs. Minneapolis is spread out over a wide space; St. Paul is compact and its outlines sharply defined. Minneapolis has the appearance of an overgrown town rather than a city; St. Paul looks like an old, well-established city. Minneapolis is filled with wooden buildings; St. Paul is built of brick and stone. Minneapolis is new; St. Paul is old. Minneapolis is filled with manufactories; St. Paul is filled with wholesale houses. Minneapolis is full of New Englanders; St. Paul is full of foreigners. Both are growing rapidly; will sometime, probably, be united. In St. Paul alone over 4000 buildings will be erected this year, and in Minneapolis this number will be exceeded. I went on top of Gov. Washburn's new residence the other day, where a good view of Minneapolis is obtainable. The amount of building was perfectly wonderful. In every section of the city new houses were going up by the score. In the west nearly everybody speculates in land. Young men in Minneapolis—clerks in stores and young professional men—will get $200 or $300 ahead and invest in small lots three or four miles out of town, buying on a margin or mortgaging back. Everybody makes money. Land has been rising continually for the past four years. A tract in Minneapolis, bought a dozen years ago for $4000, sold the other day for a quarter of a million. The rise may continue for a year or two longer, but it can't always rise. —"It's a long road that has no turning."

Mr. Sherman, of Grand Forks, is in Vermont; left here last week and will return in a fortnight. I like Mr. Merrifield very much indeed; haven't met anybody lately that I liked so well. The Vermont Loan Company seems to be doing a good business, and, I should say, in a very careful, business-like manner. Mr. Merrifield is not so enthusiastic over the west as Mr. Sherman; he says he has lived in Vermont too long to be easily satisfied with a new country.

Gen. John W. Phelps, who ran for the presidency in 1880 on the anti-Masonic ticket, has just been getting married at the age of 70 years, evidently intending to keep pace with ex-Senator David Davis in the race for 1884. —*N. Y. Tribune.*

## Local Intelligence.

### Announcements.

The record of life insurance secured in Vermont from Jan. 1, 1880, to Jan. 1, 1883 (3 years) compiled from the official reports filed in the office of the Secretary of State and Insurance Commissioner of Vermont:

| | |
|---|---|
| New York Life | $1,090,558 |
| Mutual Life | 866,080 |
| Equitable Life | 876,446 |

It will thus be seen that the new business of the New York Life in Vermont since Jan. 1880 equals nearly the combined business of the Mutual Life and Equitable. A. P. CHILDS, Gen. Agt. New York Life, Brattleboro, Vt., and Springfield, Mass.

F. W. CHILDS, Agt., Crosby Block, Brattleboro.

ARTISTIC PICTURE FRAMING at Cheney & Clapp's.

The old reliable Hartford, New York, Pennsylvania and foreign fire insurance companies represented by Cudworth & Childs afford absolute protection. The best is the safest in the end. 1159

PICTURE FRAMES are cheap at Cheney & Clapp's.

EVERY HOUSE-KEEPER should have a bottle of our Enamel Furniture Polish. Sample free.

HENRY C. WILLARD.

### Brattleboro.

—Vesper services in the Unitarian church on Sunday evening at 7:30.

—The talked-of opposition express office has not as yet put in an appearance.

—The annual parade of the village fire department is set for Saturday, the 26th inst.

—Rev. J. S. Gledhill of Ludlow preaches at the Universalist church next Sunday morning.

—The wide-awake Frink is rearranging his jewelry store for the better accommodation of his business.

—Three persons were received into the Centre Congregational church last Sunday by profession.

—The Brattleboro sewing machine company now employs between 40 and 50 men, and turns out 20 machines a day.

—Last evening H. E. Taylor, chief mustering officer, organized a Grand Army post at Chester with 32 members.

—A union gospel temperance meeting will be held in the vestry of the Baptist church Sunday afternoon at 5:30.

—B. N. Chamberlin has made a decided improvement in his Green st. premises by raising his house some two feet or more.

—Rev. N. F. Perry, now settled at St. Albans, is in town for a few days of rest and recuperation after a recent attack of pleurisy.

—Hon. E. H. Powell, state auditor, has been in town this week for his semi-annual settlement of county claims against the state.

—Mr. George J. Brooks arrived in town for the summer on Tuesday. Mr. Brooks left San Francisco in February, and has since been travelling in the south.

—Rev. F. E. Tower of Allston, Mass., recently called to the pastorate of the First Baptist church, will preach in that church next Sunday morning.

—George Anderson, a reed-filer at J. Estey & Co.'s, with his family, left town the other day, going by team to South Vernon; where at his creditors mourn.

—On the evening before Memorial Day—Tuesday, May 29—the Grand Army post will hold a public campfire in the town hall, to which everybody is invited.

—Mr. Edw. F. Brown, an experienced and trusted accountant from the Millers River National bank of Athol, Mass., is soon to take a position in the Vermont National bank.

—The cigar makers at Leonard & Roess's opened the base ball season Monday afternoon by a game on the common, in which the upstairs boys beat the down-stairs, 16 to 15.

—H. M. Currier, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, I. O. O. F., has completed his annual report, which has just been issued from the press of Selleck & Davis in a neat pamphlet of 368 pages.

—Miss Louise Waite will sail for Europe in June, to be absent several months, accompanying Miss E. E. Dana, principal of the school at Morristown, N. J., in which she has been teaching for the past two years.

—A trunk telephone line is now in process of construction between Bellows Falls and Greenfield. The Brattleboro exchange will be made one station on the line, giving connection with all the larger towns south and north.

—The proposed meeting of the Brattleboro and Saratoga rifle clubs on neutral ground has been abandoned, and they will have their second match by telegraph on their home ranges this afternoon, with an exchange of scorers.

—S. W. Kimball has bought of S. N. Herrick, agent for the heirs, the estate known as the Tyler school property on North Main street, and will fit up the house for his own residence. Price $5000.

—Samuel Boyce got drunk on Bellows Falls lager Saturday night, and made such a row that, for the safety of his family, officers Alls and Herrick took him in charge and kept him in the lock-up till Monday, when he was let off with a fine of $5 and costs imposed by Justice Newton.

—*Joshua Whitcomb* was given last Friday evening to the largest audience of the season. Of the presentation it only needs to be said that Mr. Thompson was at his best, and that the whole company is an exceptionally strong one. Nothing more satisfactory in its way has ever been seen on our local stage.

—Charles Fowler has removed his leather and repair business to Vinton's building, corner of Canal and South Main streets, and the room lately occupied by him in Judge's building is to be opened as a cigar shop by Messrs. Bohrman & Boyce, late employes of Leonard & Roess.

—The listers are now engaged in making their final revisions and footings, and will probably complete their labors to-day. As already indicated the personal list will show an increase of about $100,000 over last year, while the real estate will be substantially unchanged.

—The Sunday-school class of which Mrs. A. A. Morse, principal of the Intermediate school, is a member, paid her a surprise visit at her rooms on Grove street Wednesday afternoon. The guests brought supper with them, and passed a very pleasant afternoon and evening.

—I. K. Allen & Co. have taken a contract for building a large semi-circular shed for Geo. E. Lyon at the West Dummerston granite quarries. It is to be located by the side of the railroad track and will be used both for loading and as a shelter for workmen. The erection of a large boarding house at the quarries is also contemplated.

—Brattleboro Lodge, F. & A. M., installed the following officers Wednesday evening: J. H. Pratt, W. M.; A. L. Clark, S. W.; J. A. Bond, J. W.; H. D. Holton, treasurer; W. C. Horton, secretary; D. A. Young, S. D.; U. W. Frink, J. D.; A. W. Clayton, chaplain; W. H. Vinton, marshal; E. L. Cooper, S. S.; W. S. Edwards, J. S.; J. A. Jones, tyler.

—Geo. Cutler is ready for business at the Willard Frost stand, and elsewhere in this paper calls attention to the new stock of boots and shoes which he is ready to show his customers. We need not remind the public that Mr. Cutler is of long experience in the boot and shoe trade in Brattleboro, and that he may be relied upon to give value received to all who favor him with their custom.

—"Jo" Taylor, whom the Argus would have buy the Pavilion hotel at Montpelier, says that Mr. Atkins was a little "previous" in jumping at conclusions. The papers were signed last Saturday by which the Pavilion was transferred to the Chas. W. Bailey estate, which holds a mortgage upon it for its full value. We may add that we would like to be a guest of the Pavilion or of any other hotel with Mr. Taylor for landlord.

—The High and Grammar schools resumed their sessions on Monday. The committee announce that the schools will close June 1st, the same as though the recess of the past two weeks had not been taken. We think this decision a wise one, since the schools must necessarily be conducted under great disadvantages to both teachers and pupils for the present, and the nervous wear and tear and confusion would be but poorly compensated by what little might be learned in two weeks of hot weather.

—A private letter from a gentleman who knows whereof he speaks assures us that Miss Lizzie Downs of Worcester, Mass., who is to appear in an entertainment at Crosby hall next Wednesday evening, has rare gifts as a public reader. She is a pupil of Prof. Bilish of Boston, and has read with great acceptance before audiences in several New England cities. We trust she will have an appreciative hearing on her appearance here.

—The following is the list of letters remaining in the Brattleboro post office, May 11:

Ladies—Katie T Bowler, Johanna G Baker, Mrs Wm J Howe, Nellie Howe, Millie M Johnson, Mrs C H Newton, Clark-st, Mrs Eugene O'Donnell, Effie Perry, Mrs Ralph Root, Rose Stewart, Addie E Scribner.

Gents—W S Brick, O R Dutton, Mr Fay care Mason & Co, Walter Haigh, A A Houghton, J O Johnson, J W Kibling, Dan'l H Mason, J H Small, A L Stanley, John Taft, D C Vaughn, Chas A Wood, Royal Q Wilson.

—Crowell has a force of 15 or 20 men at work on his reservoir and aqueduct. As planned, the reservoir will be of great benefit to the place, having a capacity of some 5,000,000 gallons and being located at such a height above the village as to form a valuable auxiliary to our fire department, and one which it is to be hoped the village will not be slow to avail itself of. The reservoir will require two years for its completion.

—The Bennington Banner is "informed" that "the proposed railroad from Readsboro to Hoosac Tunnel station (east end of Tunnel) is an assured fact, and that capitalists will build it." The Banner also intimates that this is "the proper railroad for Wilmington and Whitingham to foster as an outlet." It may be a "proper" outlet for those towns, but it is not the one which their people really want, and it certainly is not one which will help the business of Brattleboro.

—Col. Estey is recovering from his recent illness, and is now able to be dressed and leave the house. His little son, the baby of the household, has been very alarmingly ill with dysentery for a week past. On Tuesday Dr. Henry Gray and Dr. C. A. Gray were summoned from Cambridge, N. Y., together with Dr. Walker of Greenfield, Mass., in consultation with Dr. Gale. This morning the symptoms of the child are somewhat more favorable, but its life still hangs in the balance.

—The bailiffs have posted notices with regard to the dumping and removal of filth, and Mr. Herrick has been engaged in clearing up the banks above the railroad. Both of these are good moves, but there are two or three private plague spots in the rear of Main-street buildings, in the shape of filthy areas and open privies and drains, which endanger the health of the community and must be removed. The season is getting well advanced and if individuals do not move in the matter then the authorities must do so.

—The Brattleboro Tool company, which is to engage in the manufacture of the Steers' patent plane, has organized by the choice of J. L. Martin, Geo. E. Crowell, S. A. Smith, H. R. Lawrence, and E. H. Van Doorn directors; J. L. Martin, president; C. F. Thompson, secretary and treasurer; William Steers, superintendent. The company have rented quarters for their business on the third floor of Smith & Hunt's building. Most of their machinery has been bought, and they are nearly ready to begin work preparatory to the manufacture of goods, which they hope to have upon the market by Oct. 1st.

—We doubt if any proposed enterprise of a local character has ever awakened so general and so favorable an interest among the people of this place as has the suggestion of the possible removal of Lewis college to Brattleboro. The matter forms a general topic of conversation, and inquiries with regard to it are heard on every side. A formal movement for raising the required sum of money has not yet been made. Col. Estey being the only resident alumnus of the university, it has been thought best to await the recovery of his health in order that the movement may have the benefit of his advice and assistance at the outset.

—The benefit concert to be given by the military band at the town hall, next Thursday evening, deserves to be largely attended, not only on account of the many attractive features of the entertainment, but because the ticket buyers will thus encourage an organization in which this community may justly take pride. The expense of maintaining the band is large, and the members take this way to raise funds rather than resort to a subscription paper. The programme to be offered on this occasion is an unusually attractive one, consisting in its first part of selections by the band, interspersed with vocal numbers; in the second part the young ladies' broom drill will be repeated, and the evening will close with a bright and taking farce. It ought to be a point of honor to give the band a full house on this occasion.

—Col. and Mrs. Hooker have this week occupied their residence at the corner of Main and High streets, which, since last fall, has been in course of repair and thorough renovation. No single change which has been made about town in recent years has added so much to the good appearance of the village as have the improvements which have been made upon this estate, and one hardly knows whether the occupants of the house or the public generally are most to be congratulated. This week the fence at the foot of Mrs. Kellogg's hill has been removed and in due time we shall have an unbroken stretch of green across Col. Hooker's grounds and up the bank to Mrs. Kellogg's residence.

—A smart thunder shower passed over this village Thursday morning, during which the lightning struck an elm tree standing near the residence of Frank Reed, on the hill west of the railroad depot, and descending, ran along the surface of the ground to Reed's house, spattering it with mud and coming up through the kitchen floor, penetrating the zinc under the stove, shattering and scorching a partition wall, tearing a hole through the ceiling, and following thence to the adjoining house occupied by Oscar Cook, where it also played some queer pranks but did little damage. Fortunately the occupants of the rooms which it entered were absent just at that time. The same stroke prostrated a boy standing on the steps of the Reed street schoolhouse and gave the cler