National Republican.

CHRISTMAS.

The sun rose bright and beautiful yesterday morning, and as his beams were thrown over houstop, leafless tree, and towering spire, the wind commenced its sportive play, but by noon the gentle breeze had culminated into a gale, and roofs rattled, chimneys shook, and many little ones, last night, thought that Santa Claus had prematurely made his appearance, and was already coming down the chimney to distribute, with liberal hand the presents for good little girls and boys. But though they were doomed to disappointment, they will, without doubt, be visited to-night by the merry little King of the Christmas festivities.

To the readers of the REPUBLICAN, we would advise as to purchases. Good articles, at popular prices, are deserved by all, and to those purchasing, we recommend, among others—

COYLE & TOWERS, No. 314 Pennsylvania avenue, between Ninth and Tenth streets. This young and energetic firm has displayed enterprise really commendable. They have a fine selection of books, embracing the works of all the popular authors, Catholic prayer-books, &c., chromos, engravings, and paintings of the finest description. Orders for "Pastel," the new photographing process, are received at this store, and persons desirous of securing a handsome picture will be benefited by calling upon the firm. Portmonnaies, fancy inkstands, albums, and many other articles suitable for the season, can be had, and we are pleased to notice that the energy of the firm is meeting with success.

J. W. BOYELER & BRO., No. 320 Metzerott Hall are not behind the age, and they have a variety of articles suitable for holiday presents, in the way of fancy China, glass and crockery ware, very attractive. A large number of these articles have been purchased recently at New York trade sales, and are offered at prices within the means of all. In richness and rarity they excel anything we have ever seen, and would certainly be a handsome present to any.

EGAN & BRO., corner of Ninth and E streets, know the wants of the public, and are prepared to satisfy all persons desirous of purchasing of them. In the way of wines, brandies, Jamaica and New England rum, Holland gin, whiskies, &c., the proprietors have a stock of the best brands, offering it in large or small quantities, to suit purchasers. They have also a large supply of little luxuries—currants, citron, almonds, cranberries, figs, &c., which are indispensable during Christmas week, and our patrons will take the hint and act accordingly.

JOHN C. PARKER, No. 458 Seventh street, is one of those live fellows in the community whose services could not easily be dispensed with. He is the proprietor of a lively institution—a book store—and the holiday presents within are multitudinous. Photograph albums, stereoscopes, work-boxes, toy books, prayer and hymn books suitable for all denominations, works of eminent authors, &c., adorn the shelves of the establishment, and in connection with the latest novels, daily, weekly, and pictorial papers, form an attraction not to be overlooked.

BRYAN BROS., No. 340 Pennsylvania avenue, keep pace with the times, and have something to please children and also persons of larger growth. We allude to the rich and luscious assortment of fruits, which they offer to the public, consisting of Havana oranges, raisins, almonds, &c., at prices temptingly low. The stock must be seen to be appreciated, and those calling for that purpose will not regret so doing.

RICHARDS' boot and shoe store, No. 388 Pennsylvania avenue, is one of the places to go, by those in quest of a fine boot or shoe. He has lately received some French and English boots and shoes, which are unsurpassed for beauty of finish. Those he disposed of were of great durability, and the demand for a fresh supply from his customers was too imperative to admit of denial. Mr. Richards guarantees satisfaction to those who may favor him with a call, and a trial is respectfully solicited.

J. F. MUDD, 359 D street, corner of Ninth, needs no notice of his successful endeavors to please the public. The cloths, cassimeres, coatings, &c., which he has on hand, suitable for gentlemen's wear, are of the finest texture and quality, and the "cutting" is perfection. Gentlemen desiring a handsome and fashionable suit of clothes, should not forget the merchant tailoring establishment, corner of Ninth and D streets.

SAVAGE'S SKATE DEPOT, 354 D street, near Tenth, is one of the institutions of the District, and we do not know of a more welcome present to persons of either sex than a handsome, well-fitting pair of skates. With the "first ice" on the Park the excitement and anxiety to be upon a pair of skates will be intense, and all calculating upon "striking out" should provide themselves in season. Savage has also on hand a large number of sleighs, fancy articles, &c., which he disposes of at moderate prices.

CHRISTMAS inaugurates the fashionable season, receptions, balls, parties, &c., and the ladies should ever be prepared. Mrs. A. S. Trayer, No. 4, Four-and-a-half, Mrs. Atkinson, 347 Eighth street, between I and K north, and Mrs. Shedd, over Ellis's music store, are the proprietresses of millinery, dress-making, and corset establishments, which the fair sex would find beneficial by patronizing. Each of these ladies have a specialty of their own in the make and material, and those who favor them with their patronage will be satisfied with the workmanship and quality.

IN strolling along yesterday in our wanderings here and there, we observed a large crowd of ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, inside and outside of the fruit and confectionery store of J. Pearson, 401 Eighth street, near Pennsylvania avenue. Of course we inquired the cause of the excitement, and were astonished to learn that the liberal proprietor was disposing of his luscious fruits and fine confections to Sabbath schools at cost. This, we understand he intends to continue, and we trust the generosity of Mr. Pearson will meet with its due reward.

J. T. PETTY & Co., boot and shoe dealer, No. 418 Seventh street, above D, are determined not to be surpassed in their peculiar line of business, and in poetic vein warn all good folks of the danger resulting from damp feet. These gentlemen are correct. Damp feet are not only disagreeable, but many lead to some insidious disease, consigning the unfortunate owner of said feet to the tomb. A pair of those double-sole calfskin boots or sewed congress gaiters will keep all those ills away, and Petty & Co. guarantee all articles purchased.

SHEPHERD, corner of Seventh and D streets, is an excellent place for a cheap and good variety of useful articles suitable for all seasons. Fine bibles, juvenile books, standard poets, prayer and hymn books, gold pens and pencils, fancy work and toilet-boxes, writing-desks, albums, &c., are but a few of the many nice, ornamental, and agreeable presents which Shepherd has, and we were not at all surprised to observe the crowds that were visiting his establishment yesterday. Those Morocco goods and Prang's oil chromos created a sensation, and there is no denying the fact that the proprietor means business.

MANY PERSONS from the west end of the city purchase their goods in the central portion of the District, forgetting that there are establishments in their own locality where articles can be procured as good and at the same prices. W. H. Pearson, No. 114 Pennsylvania avenue, between Nineteenth and Twentieth streets, has a trimming store which for capacity and quality of goods cannot be excelled. He has a large variety of ladies' and gentlemen's furnishing goods, and those in the vicinity might call upon the proprietor ere purchasing elsewhere.

JEWELRY is a favorite adornment of the fair sex, and those masculines who would perpetuate the smiles of some dear one had better call upon H. O. Hood, No. 338 Pennsylvania avenue, between Ninth and Tenth streets, and among the rare and beautiful articles, such as gold and silver watches, opera glasses, gold and silver thimbles, &c., will certainly find something to please the recipient, whomsoever it may be.

WE HAVE SEEN no finer variety of holiday presents than those we saw in the new drug store of Winter & Brother, southeast corner of Ninth street and New York avenue. Plain and fancy brushes, perfumery, portmonnaies, &c., are there to be had, and to us the show-cases presented an elegant appearance, evidencing taste and neatness and enterprise by this young and energetic firm.

CUMMINS, of No. 347 Seventh street, second door below the Northern market, has just received a large invoice of Christmas slippers for gentlemen, and has also on hand a complete stock of children's and infants' kid boots.

AMUSEMENTS.

WALL'S OPERA HOUSE.—This *bijou* of a theatre was crowded last night with the beauty and fashion of our city to listen to the initial performance of Strakosh's Italian Opera Troupe in Verdi's favorite opera of "Il Trovatore." To simply state that the leading artists, Madame La Grange, Miss Adelaide Phillips, Signor Brignoli and Signor Orlandini, more than satisfied a critical audience in the rendition of their several *roles*, would be but "damning with faint praise." It was a spendid performance in acting (a rare merit in opera) and in vocalization. The approbation of the audience was testified by heartfelt applause, and repeated *encores*. Madame La Grange was superb as Leonora, and Miss Adelaide Phillips in her rendition of Azucena, proved herself, in singing and acting, to be in fact the "American Prima Donna." Brignoli as Manrico and Orlandini as Count De Luna were admirable; and we have only to add, in conclusion, that there have been but few occasions in our twenty years' experience as an *habitue* of the opera that we have been more highly gratified with a performance than that of the opera of "Il Trovatore," last night; and those of our friends who were not there missed a great treat. To-night the grand opera of "Norma" will be rendered. As Madame La Grange has won more than mere laurels in this, her most celebrated *role*, another full house and gratified audience may confidently be predicted.

NATIONAL THEATRE.—Notwithstanding the attraction of the opera at Wall's this place of amusement was crowded last night to see Mr. John Owens. As Dr. Ollapod he made a decided hit, and sustained the reputation he enjoys as one of the first comedians of the day. The play of "The Poor Gentleman" is, in modern days, sadly mutilated on the stage. Take it entire it is one of the finest of English comedies, and it strikes us that the character of Ollapod would still afford a leading actor sufficient opportunity to be the principal attraction if it were to commence at the *beginning*, and not in the middle, and then "go back for quantity," as is the custom. Mr. Owens was well sustained by the company. His Solon Shingle was such as he alone can make it.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

MESSRS. COYLE & TOWERS, successors to Philp & Solomon, No. 314 Pennsylvania avenue, have attractive holiday goods in the shape of stationery, gift books, prayer books for all denominations, choice standard works, children's books, fancy articles, gold and silver pencils, &c. Call and examine them to-day.

MR. J. J. WILLIAMSON, 339 F street, opposite St. Patrick's church, has on hand writing desks, dressing cases, albums, books, and fancy goods, suitable for holiday presents.

THOSE in want of second-hand pianos will find the kind they need at fair prices at Ellis' music store, No. 326 Pennsylvania avenue.

AT LIESENMANN'S bookstore, corner of Ninth and D streets, can be found a variety of Catholic books, work-boxes, albums, portfolios, and fancy goods, at the lowest prices, for holiday gifts.

WINTER AMUSEMENTS.—A series of amusements will be given at the Trades' Union Hall, corner of Eighth and E streets, opposite the Post Office, for the poor and distressed. It is well in this, our genial season of the year, to remember the poor, for according to the Scripture "He who giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord;" and if you like the security, read the advertisement of the Trades' Union Hall, in another column.

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

PROVIDENT AID SOCIETY.—This society met at the office of Hon. Mayor Wallach at noon yesterday to perfect measures for the speedy relief of the poor of the city.

Hon. Peter Parker presided, and F. A. Boswell, esq., was secretary.

Mr. Parker announced that Mr. George Lowry had handed him a check for $50; Mayor Wallach announced a check for $50 from Cornelius Wendell, esq.; also that Mr. Campbell had handed him $70, $50 of which were from Mr. V. Willett; and a note of thanks was tendered these gentlemen.

Mr. Tustin stated that $500 or $600 would be raised in the Interior Department, and that proper efforts were being made in the other Departments.

Mr. James Dalton said that an association had been formed in the navy yard with a view to relieving the families of those men who had been discharged from the navy yard. Therefore he could not promise much from that quarter until he could ascertain what the society there had accomplished.

Rev. Dr. Hall reported that a soup house would be established in the First ward during the afternoon, and that Messrs. McClue and Stinemetz had volunteered to engineer it. The Surgeon General had already ordered several cauldrons for their use, and kettles had been obtained from the Quartermaster General. Thanks were voted these gentlemen, as also Messrs. Libby & Guy for a cooking stove.

On motion of Mr. Shepherd the number of soup houses was ordered to be increased to one for each ward, and thanks were voted Mr. Bailey of the Washington Gas-light Company, for his offer to deliver coke on the order of the association at five cents per bushel.

Some further unimportant business was transacted, when the society adjourned.

There were handed to the treasurer subscriptions of $25 each from Messrs. Harvey, Clarke & Given, Geo. F. Schafer, and Geo. F. Gulick.

Yesterday the Fourth ward committee met at the store of Mr. Robert Ball and laid out their work. The ward was laid off into seven districts, as follows: Canal to D street, and from Third to Sixth streets—F. A. Lutz, J. J. Campbell; D to Pennsylvania avenue, F street, and Ninth to Seventh—James Y. Davis, P. M. Dubant, and Robert Ball; First and Sixth streets, and D to F—W. B. Todd, N. Acker, and W. F. Mattingly; F street to New York avenue and Fourth to Seventh streets—Andrew Gleason, J. D. Connell, and John Crowley; F street to New York avenue and Sixth to the Boundary—W. Schwing and W. H. Clagett. It is expected that all named above will immediately go to work, and should any decline it is desirable that they should give information of the fact that others may be appointed.

AN IMPROVEMENT.—Yesterday morning we called in at the northeast corner of Ninth and E streets, and found workmen busily engaged in refitting the building. Mr. Frederick Heider and Mr. Ferdinand Roth are doing the carpenters', Mr. Henry Conrad the brick, and Mr. A. Gross the work. They are laying it off as follows: First floor, store rooms; second floor, dancing hall, 40 by 50 feet; third floor, laid off in different apartments for associations; fourth floor in small rooms. They expect to have it completed by the 1st of February next.

From Mr. J. Walter, the present owner, we have the following history of this building: About the year 1816 it was the property of Mr. McGuire, and was occupied as the Washington Medical College. It was afterwards owned by Mr. Norris, and was used as a Masonic hall. It was subsequently purchased by Mr. J. W. Nailor, and several public schools were taught in it, and during a portion of the war a saddler shop was carried on there. About six weeks since Mr. J. Walter purchased it, and is now refitting it. When completed it will be a handsome structure.

Mr. Walter intends building a two-story pressbrick front house on E street, adjoining the hall named above. The lower floor will be used as a store.

THE WEATHER AND NAVIGATION.—We are glad to notice that the Potomac Ferry Company have their boats again running, and it is to be hoped that the wheels will perform the operation for some time to come. The late thaw has made a sluice way, and the enterprise of the company has taken advantage of it.

The schooner Ocean Wave, Capt. Neale, with freight for the Government, and the schooner M. Van Name, Capt. Van Name, with 325 tons of stone for N. Acker, have arrived at Sixth street wharf. It is stated that the steamers Express and Kanawhee, of the Baltimore and Washington line, have laid up for the winter, and will not return to this city till the opening of the next season.

SEWING MACHINES.—A very interesting spectacle now presents itself at the establishment of Messrs. J. H. Hopkins & Co., jewelers, corner of Seventh and F streets. These gentlemen have placed in their window one of the popular elliptic lock-stitch sewing machines, of which they are the agents, which is operated by steam. The window was beset yesterday by juveniles, who desired to purchase the doll seated at the sewing machine, but the urbane Mr. Hopkins informed them that the machines, not the doll, were for sale.

SUIT AGAINST GEN. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER.—Yesterday morning Mr. J. M. Appler, of Georgetown, brought suit against Gen. B. F. Butler, before Justice Walter, to recover a claim of $64 for papering a room in the residence of the general. The price charged was said to be exorbitant by the general, and he refused to pay the bill after repeated calls on him by the collector. The case was then taken before the above named Justice, and after hearing the evidence, it was agreed by both parties to compromise the matter by General Butler paying $35, and receiving a receipt in full.

CHARGED WITH FELONY.—Yesterday Joseph Honseger was arrested on the charge of opening a letter containing $5, belonging to Harvey May. He was also charged with slapping Mr. May in the face. After due consideration Justice Hazard said that Mr. Honseger had committed no felony. After paying $1 fine he was allowed to take his departure.

DIED IN JAIL.—Mary Gant, who was sent to jail last week on the charge of stealing an overcoat, and who, while in the Fourth ward station, set fire to her wearing apparel and was burned badly, died in the jail yesterday morning from the effects of the burn. Her husband was in the jail at the time of her death, and was tried in court yesterday.

THE WALLACH SCHOOL BUILDING.—A few days since we saw it stated that a committee had examined the Wallach school building, and had reported that there is danger of it taking fire from defective flues. This report has subsequently been denied.

Mayor Wallach, however, to be certain about the matter, engaged a well-known architect, Mr. John C. Harkness, to examine the entire building. This he did, and the following is his report to the Mayor, which fully silences the first report:

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 21, 1867.

Richard Wallach, esq., Mayor of Washington city:

SIR: In pursuance of your request of the 19th instant, I have made a careful examination of the furnaces and flues of the Fourth district school-house, with a view to determine whether the same were properly constructed and the building sufficiently guarded against fire.

A careful examination of the original drawings of the several floors show that the most skilful attention of the architect has been bestowed upon the construction of the building, so as to render ignition from the flues impossible.

Owing to the magnitude of the building, and the exceeding bleakness of the site on which it has been erected, the three furnaces provided by the original plans and specifications were, on trial, found insufficient, and occasioned the introduction of two more furnaces and the altered condition of the three original furnaces, which has been effected with skill, and without the least detriment to the security of the building.

Last summer, upon renewing several of the furnaces which had become unfit for use, for purposes of economy of heat, the hot air flues were lined with tin. This appliance, while well calculated to secure the object sought, has rendered said flues doubly secure against ignition. Opposite these and the smoke flues, which are by far the most dangerous, the skirtings of wood have been years since removed, and where the floors joined them originally with perfect impunity, nine inches of additional brick work have been introduced, thereby making the walls separating the floor timbers from the flues fourteen inches thick, which ought to allay the fears of the most timid.

Not content with this satisfactory developments of the carefully guarded construction of the building and the fidelity with which the furnaces have been put up, I carefully examined the accessible timber and wood work exposed to the heat of the furnaces and flues during the season which have required their fullest capacity since the occupancy of the building, and failed to detect the slightest indication of charring; shrinkage only is visible, that being inevitable and beyond the skill of the architect to prevent.

As the furnace occupying the centre of the cellar is a portable one, and removed from the flues provided by the architect in an original plan, a sheet iron smoke pipe and tin hot air conducted to it, are a necessity, and as these are liable to derangement, or decay it is possible that remotely an accident might, by neglect, occur, but not otherwise. To guard against such a contingency some judicious and precautionary provisions it would be well to make.

In conclusion permit me, my dear sir, to congratulate you and the community in having so safe, commodious and well-adapted a building in which to educate their children.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN C. HARKNESS.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The regular monthly meeting was held last evening at the rooms of the association over Metzerott Hall, Mr. S. S. Bryant presiding.

The treasurer, Mr. W. J. Reese, read a report on the financial condition, from which it appears that the association is $834 in debt.

The Committee on Employment reported that those members of the association who had been out of employment had been supplied with places.

Mr. O. C. Wind, from the Evangelization Committee, reported that they visited the prisoners at the jail every Sabbath afternoon.

Mr. J. A. Cole, from the same committee, said that the committee had had the subject of public meetings on the Sabbath under consideration, and that the old Washington Theatre could be secured for the purpose.

A lengthy discussion occurred on this subject, there being great diversity of opinion about the feasibility of holding such meetings, and also as to whether the rent of the theatre should be paid from the funds of the association, or from a special fund created for the purpose. The subject was referred back to the Evangelization Committee.

A resolution granting compensation to Mr. Pratt, the general secretary, was passed.

Mr. Cleveland Abbe tendered his resignation as chairman of the Committee on Churches.

Messrs. Ramsdell, Cole, and Abbe were appointed a committee to suggest amendments to the constitution.

A motion to hold daily prayer-meetings during the holidays was referred to the Evangelization Committee.

On motion, adjourned.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' UNION.—There was a large attendance at the regular meeting of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Union last evening. The meeting was called to order at 7½ o'clock, Major W. S. Morse, presiding.

Patrick Devine was elected a member of the Union.

The president read a communication from Senator Morton, of Indiana, stating that he would address the Union as per invitation on Monday evening, December 30, upon the political issues of 1868.

Hon. W. B. Stokes was expected to address the Union but was unavoidably detained. He, however, sent in a note stating that he would address the Union at some future meeting.

Mr. Merrill called for the reading of a resolution passed some time since in relation to the call for a soldiers' and sailors' national convention, pending which a cross-fire was got up between Major Wells and Mr. Merrill, much to the amusement of all except the parties above-named.

Capt. Manning was then called upon to address the meeting, which he did; his remarks being principally in relation to the late elections, he taking the ground that the result of those elections does not indicate a defeat of the Republican party in 1868.

Major Morse followed in some eloquent and fitting remarks, after which the meeting adjourned.

THE JEWISH FEAST.—A portion of the period devoted by Gentiles to holiday and thanksgiving in honor of the birth of Jesus will be spent in sacred festivity also by the Hebrews in honor of the anniversary of the dedication of the temple. The festival is known in Hebrew as Hanuka, and commemorates the preservation of the national existence and the liberation of the Hebrews from oppression. It is celebrated during eight days, commencing on the 25th day of the month Kisley, or the 21st of our month December. It was instituted by Judas Maccabeus at the second consecration of the temple.

A LECTURE BY PROF. GRIFFITH.—Last evening, Prof. Allen A. Griffith, whom we have heretofore noticed, lectured to a large and fashionable audience at Columbian Law Building, on Fifth street, near D. His lecture was characteristic, and really an entertaining affair. Had we the space at our command, we would take pleasure in giving some of his well-put hits. We must, however, forego the pleasure of so doing.

A STRICT ORDER.—An order was issued yesterday prohibiting employees in the navy yard from speaking to each other during working hours; also, rescinding the rule giving them five minutes at the close of their labors in which to wash and don their clothing, and requiring that the roll be called at the close of labor as well as at the commencement thereof.

DEATH ON A BOAT.—Captain William Guy, of the schooner Anna L. Whitmore, died aboard his vessel at Riley's wharf, foot of Eleventh street, on the night of the 22d instant. His remains were sent to Baltimore on the twelve o'clock train yesterday. From there they will be sent to his family in Accomac county, Virginia.

TEMPERANCE.—The Washington City Temperance Society held their regular meeting at Temperance Hall, on E street, on Sunday evening, and addresses were delivered by Messrs. Oscar Alexander, Thomas E. Bolster, O. K. Harris, Judge Middlebrook, John Goldin, Dr. T. G. Clayton, W. P. Drew, and ex-Gov. Thomas H. Ford.

WASHINGTON YACHT CLUB.—The first grand ball of the Washington Yacht Club will transpire at Trades' Union Hall, corner of Eighth and E streets to-night, when a pleasant time may be expected, as the officers of the club have been untiring in their endeavors to render a season of enjoyment to all in attendance.

AN ACQUISITION.—We were agreeably surprised last evening to find in the chamber of the Board of Aldermen a lot of new cane-seat chairs. We learn that other new furniture will soon be added to this instalment. No mote it be, for they are needed.

SENT TO JAIL.—Yesterday a colored boy was arraigned before Justice Hazard, charged with stealing a ring from Mr. Smith, a restaurant keeper. He did not deny the charge, but gave up the ring. In default of $300 security he was committed to jail for court.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The following named gentlemen were yesterday elected the Board of Directors of the Washington Schutzenverein to serve for six months: Charles Kloman, Charles Ebel, C. B. P. Stalley, Adolph Cluss, Peter Dill, George Hartig, Frederick Huegele, F. Keasel, and Mr. Wisceat.

A SABBATH SCHOOL CONCERT will take place at the First Presbyterian church (Dr. Sunderland's,) on Four-and-a-half street, to-morrow evening, at the conclusion of which the gifts upon the Christmas tree will be distributed among the children.

COL. PARKER'S WEDDING.—It is stated that Col. Eli S. Parker and Miss Minnie O. Sackett, daughter of Gen. Sackett, will be joined in holy wedlock, at Epiphany church, by Rev. Dr. Hall, to-day at 12 o'clock.

AID FOR THE POOR.—A liberal collection for the poor was taken up at the Epiphany Baptist church on Sunday evening, after the close of the regular services.

VAGRANCY.—Ellen O'Donnell was arrested by Officer Hill charged with vagrancy. Justice Walter sent her to the work-house for 30 days.

KING, the horse thief, thus far has received seven years sentence to Albany.

A PLEASURABLE ENTERTAINMENT.—Last night, at Carroll Hall, on G, between Ninth and Tenth streets, a number of the pupils of the public schools gave a concert, by which to raise funds with which to purchase a piano for the use of the public schools. The hall was comfortably filled by a select audience, and the efforts of the pupils were frequently indorsed by the hearty applause of the spectators. The recitation rendered by Master Frank was admirable, and was highly appreciated by those present, as also was the declamation by Master Lipscomb. The songs were so well vocalized that it would be almost unfair to particularize. The piano was kindly loaned by Mr. John F. Ellis. The following is the programme: The Sunlight Comes—Chorus: Grammar Schools; Return of the Soldiers—Chorus: Inter. and Sec. Schools; Meet Me in the Lane, Love—Solo and Semi-Chorus: Clara York; We are Merry Troubadors—Duet: Grace Hurdle and Kate Byram; Green are the Hills—Chorus: Inter. and Sec. Schools; Aminta Mia—Solo: Ella Clarke; Under the Snow—Solo and Semi-Chorus: Nettie Lenman; When the Green Leaves—Chorus: Inter. and Sec. Schools; Maggie's Secret—Solo: Mary Cooper; Nora O'Neal—Solo: Martha Greason; The Soldier's Grave—Chorus: Inter. and Sec. Schools; Declamation: Master Lipscomb; Recitation: Master Frank; How Lovely the Woods: Grammar Schools; Out in the Starlight—Solo and Quartette: Clara Sloussa; Voices of the Night—Duet: M. Reiss and J. Pugh; Awake! and let Your Songs Resound—Chorus: Grammar Schools; Where She's Sleeping—Duet: Misses Swallow; The Basket-Maker's Child—Solo and Semi-Chorus: Miretta Thorne; Pure Rippling River—Chorus: Grammar Schools; Come in the Blush of the Morning—Semi-Chorus: Grammar Schools; Zula Zong—Solo and Semi-Chorus: J. Pugh; Duet: Masters Hurdle and Pearson; Now to all a Kind Good Night—Chorus: Grammar Schools.

A DANGEROUS FALL.—Yesterday between 10 and 11 o'clock, a part of the north wall of the Calvary Baptist Church, corner Eighth and H streets, which was destroyed by fire on the 15th instant, fell down, the bricks scattering in every direction. Many of the workmen were busy cleaning bricks at the time, near the church, but fortunately none were hurt. It is generally believed that the remainder of the walls will stand; also that the steeple may be used in the rebuilding of the church.

A FIRE.—This morning, about 1½ o'clock, Officers Dubois and Atchison discovered the building on the corner of First street east and A street north, known as the Old Capitol, to be on fire. They proceeded to the spot, and through their exertions extinguished the flames before it had made much headway. Loss about $50. It is supposed the building caught fire from a defective flue. It belonged to Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms Brown, of the Senate.

AN ERROR.—Yesterday we stated, unintentionally, that Mr. P. McCauley was arrested and fined for disorderly conduct. Mr. McCauley is a watchman in the Smithsonian grounds, and, on Sunday, he arrested a man named Frank Stewart for destroying trees on these grounds. He took him before Justice Harper, who imposed a fine of $2 on him.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.—Officer Loring, of the Fifth precinct, arrested Philip E. Deggs upon the above charge. He was taken before Justice Harper, who fined him $3. Officer Keasey, of the same ward, arrested Samuel Harrison for being intoxicated. The same Justice fined him $2.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY.—Officer Brewer, of the Seventh precinct, arrested William Dalton for committing an assault and battery on Amelia Crosby. He was held to bail to keep the peace by Justice Walter. Emma Neale was arrested by Officer McElfresh for enticing prostitution. Justice Walter fined her $2.

MASONIC—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The following named gentlemen were elected officers of Dawson Lodge, No. 16, F. and A. M., yesterday evening: W. P., O. Hadaway; S. W., W. J. Stevenson; J. W., Henry Chase; secretary, G. R. Thompson; treasurer, R. H. Graham.

DISORDERLY.—Geo. Jackson, Ali. Yates, Fannie Miller, Maggie Lloyd, Albert Snoreden, Ann Boss, Mary Snoden and Frank Jackson were arrested for disorderly conduct. They were taken before Justice Buckey, who fined the five first-named $5.50, and the last two $2.50 each.

THE POLICE OFFICERS of the Metropolitan force will receive their back pay from the corporation to-day, from Mr. Samuel Ourand, the Mayor's clerk, at the City Hall. He will commence paying at about 9 o'clock, a. m.

LOCAL ITEMS.

LADIES, see the new and beautiful styles of Walking Boots of every material, coming in every day at Cummins', 347 Seventh street, second door south of K street and Northern Market.

SOMETHING ENTIRELY NEW FOR GENTLEMEN.—Desirable, neat, convenient and cheap. One price only, at Henning's, corner Seventh street and Maryland avenue, with 10 per cent. discount until removal to No. 311 Seventh street, Intelligencer Building.

OFFICE OF A. SAKS & CO., 317 SEVENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1867.—All persons having accounts at this establishment are hereby notified that if not paid before January 1st, 1868, they will be positively placed in the hands of a collector. We also wish to state that under no circumstances will any new accounts be opened.
A. SAKS & CO.

IN SEARCHING for a first-class Boot and Shoe establishment, it would be well for those of our readers to visit the well-known store of Mr. Jacob Bool, 416 Seventh street, between G and H. Everything known in the Boot and Shoe trade can be had at his establishment, and at the lowest prices. Also, made to order, Boots, Shoes and Gaiters of the best French calf, at the lowest prices.

THE ONLY REASON WHY Mr. P. C. Boyle, at 396 Pennsylvania avenue, between Four-and-a-half and Sixth streets, near the National Hotel, has such a demand for his pure Rye Whisky is, that it is the product of the Chenango and Wheatland Valley, which is of a limestone soil, and consequently is the purest and best of any other in the market. His Kentucky Bourbon cannot be excelled. Foreign and Domestic Wines and Brandies always on hand and in large quantities at the lowest prices.

THE ELLIPTIC LOCK-STITCH SEWING MACHINE. These neat and beautiful household necessities are now on exhibition at the store of J. H. Hopkins & Co., Watch and Jewelry dealers, northeast corner of F and Seventh streets, opposite the Patent Office. They work like a charm, and partake, apparently, more of the pastime principle than of the labor. They are so remarkably simple in their construction that the newest novice can work them with success. They are sure in their operation, finishing the work in a uniform and perfect manner. They make a tight lock-stitch, the only admissible stitch for family sewing and manufacturing purposes. They sew equally well the lightest and heaviest fabrics. They are provided with glass foot, hemmer, broider, binder, tucker, corder and trimmer, and these attachments are simple and certain in their adjustment and operation, and will do a greater range of work, in less time, and in a more perfect manner than any other sewing-machine. Messrs. H. & Co. have on hand a large and well selected stock of Gold Watches, Chains, Jewelry, &c., suitable for holiday presents.

"LITTLE BOOTS."—Fine Calf, sewed, long Boots, and heavy ones, for little boys, in great variety, at Cummins', 347 Seventh street, two doors below Northern Market.

FINE FURS.—The attention of the public, especially the lady portion, is called to the beautiful assortment of fine furs at the old established house of Mr. James T. Davis, No. 386 Pennsylvania avenue, under the Metropolitan Hotel, among which may be enumerated the Hudson Bay and American Sable, Siberian Squirrel, Royal Ermine, &c., &c. These furs are all of the best quality, selected with great care by Mr. Davis. Just the articles for Christmas presents for the ladies.

A VAST AND MAGNIFICENT display of Ladies' Kid Button Walking Boots, at the extensive Boot and Shoe Store of Cummins, 347 Seventh street, second door south of K street and Northern Market.

THE SHOE AND BOOT MARKET of this city has a record for cheapness. If you want to indulge in the luxury of a new pair of Boots or Gaiters for your wife, call at T. S. Gartrell, dealer in boots and shoes, corner Seventh and I streets.

CONSUMPTION, that insidious foe
Of mortals in this vale below,
often comes from damp feet, which gentlemen can avoid by purchasing a pair of pair of Gum Shoes of J. T. Petty & Co., 418 Seventh street, opposite Intelligencer Building.

IN GLANCING over our columns the eye is greeted with the remark of a "good article at a low price," and the place to find them is at T. S. Gartrell's, late Robert Israel's, 379 Seventh street, corner of I. A fine assortment of Ladies' Gentlemen's and Children's Boots and Shoes constantly on hand.

THAT veteran pickpocket, "Hard Times," has been plying his vocation among our citizens of late, but those who have suffered most from his depredations can still afford to buy at our prices, for just think of it—only $1.50 for Men's Fur Caps; $3 for fine Cassimere Bell Hats; $2.75 for Gent's sewed Congress Gaiters. And "last but not least" $4.50 for Gent's long top, double sole Calf-skin Boots—a great bargain—at J. T. Petty & Co.'s new Hat and Shoe Store, 418 Seventh street, opposite Intelligencer Building.

THE ORIGINAL FRANC, the Cheapest Man in this city. Good Merino Undershirts and Drawers, 45 cents, 50 cents, 60 cents, 75 cents, 90 cents, and $1. Good White Shirts from 90 cents up. Good Paper Collars, 10 cents per box or three boxes for 25 cents. Imitation Linen Collars, two boxes for 25 cents. Best Shakspeare Collars, 25 cents a box. Best Gray's Collars, 18 cents a box. (note, De Gray's.) Good Cotton Socks, 6 cents a pair, at Franc's Popular Gent's Furnishing Store, 404 Seventh street, between D and E, four doors above Odd Fellows' Hall.

THE COURTS.

ORPHANS' COURT—*Judge Purcell.*—This Court sat on Saturday last and transacted the following business:

THE WILL OF ELIAS BURCH, noticed last week upon its presentation, was admitted to probate.

THE BLANK CHECK CASE DECIDED.

This case, which has been too frequently reported in these columns, and is a lengthy repetition, came up on a claim of Mr. H. C. Reed for several hundred dollars, which Browne, executor of Busteed, had drawn upon a check made by him over a signature of Busteed, which the latter had, on his death-bed, delivered to Miss Reed, and which she had handed to Browne to fill up and draw the money for her. A decision was rendered on Saturday.

The Court said he had had this case under consideration for several days. It was not free from difficulties. It seems that Busteed employed Miss Reed's time and attention in his sickness, so that in fact she made sick and came near death. The executor and Reed, some, late court for permission to pay, but had afterwards refused to do so. This was not a gift; it was the payment of a hard-earned debt, and Busteed intended to give Miss Reed priority over all other creditors. The delivery of the blank check proves this. This Court can take jurisdiction of the case, because it had supervision of executions. Therefore the Court will declare that the money is not assets in Mr. Browne's hands, but must be paid over to Miss Reed.

Colonel Thompson entered an appeal from the decision.

The final account of Alexander Forrest, executor of William H. Winter of Ellen Daly, administratrix of of Dominick Daly, and of Adolph Eisenbeles' estate, by Rosa Eisenbeles, administratrix, were filed and passed.

Susanna J. Snyder qualified as administratrix of John H. Snyder, giving bond in $600, with B. H. Stolmetz and R. T. Morsell as sureties.

Upon the petition of Julia A. Forrest, the sale of certain real estate in John Webster, under an order of court, to provide for the maintenance of infant children, was re-confirmed, it appearing that since the first confirmation it had been discovered that the property belonged to one of the heirs instead of all of them, as at first supposed.

The Court then adjourned.

CRIMINAL COURT—*Judge Fisher.*—The only business transacted in this court on Saturday was the sentencing of some of the parties found guilty during the past week:

Ann Dorsey, disorderly housekeeping; Wm. Wesley, obtaining money under false pretences; Britania A. Johnson, stealing a pistol; and Martha Brown, larceny, were discharged on their own recognizances.

Wm. Rice, held for disorderly conduct, in threatening arson, was finally discharged.

Laura Waitle, for threatening R. Briscoe, was also discharged.

NEW TRIAL.

Moses Clark, charged with robbery on the street near the railroad depot. In this case, on motion of Mr. Thos. Wilson, a new trial was granted.

SENTENCES.

James Duncan, convicted of assault and battery, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment in jail.

Wm. M. King, alias Bush, convicted of horse stealing, was sentenced to two years in the Albany penitentiary, to begin at the close of the five years to which he is already sentenced for burglary.

The grand jury returned a number of cases, and the court adjourned.

YESTERDAY.

This court yesterday acted upon the following cases:

Bernard Smith, petit larceny of painter's material, the property of Karl A Stover, on the 2d of August last. He was found guilty, and sentenced to one month in jail.

Bernard Smith, grand larceny of furniture and clothing belonging to John V. Lewis, on the 2d day of last August. He was found guilty, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment in the Albany penitentiary.

Conrad Miller, petit larceny of a pair of shoes belonging to John V. Lewis, on the 22d day of August last. He was found guilty, and sentenced to two months in jail.

George Humphreys, petit larceny of a pair of shoes belonging to John Lacy; *nol pros.* entered by the District Attorney.

John Wilson, petit larceny; discharged on his own recognizance by the Court.

Frank Brown, petit larceny of a coat and other clothing, the property of James Lavender. He was arraigned, plead guilty, and was sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment.

Anderson Scott, larceny; recognizance forfeited.

Frank White, alias Depphy, larceny; recognizance forfeited.

Alexander Adams, assault and battery upon Rachel Brown on the 16th of September last. The jury found him guilty, and he was sentenced to imprisonment in jail for ten days.

Lloyd Edwards, rape of Lucy Jones (colored) in August last. Lucy Jones testified that she and her husband lived in the same house with Edwards and his wife; that one night in August last she woke up and discovered Jones occupying the place of her husband; upon her waking, Jones, who had violated her while she slept, leaped from the bed, and was recognized by her as he passed the window; she did not tell her husband for over a week, because she did not want to have "a fuss."

The Judge then directed the prosecution to proceed for assault only.

The defence showed, by the testimony of Lucy's mother, that she had been in the habit of being very free in her intercourse with Edwards for some time. The jury rendered a verdict of not guilty. Carrington for prosecution; Whitman for defence.

John Davis, burglary, in entering the house of Harriet Diamond, and stealing money, &c., on the 15th of September, 1867. He was proved to have been in possession of the stolen goods. The jury found him guilty and he was sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for three years.

Francis Br