ice off that place, and all the way down to Dunkirk there are large open spaces of water. He thinks a propeller could work through. He states that the prop Birchhead, bound for Erie, was caught and detained in the ice five days. She got back to Cleveland out of fuel and provisions.....The following Captains have made their appearance here within a few days to prepare their vessels for the opening: William Waters, of schr San Diego; John Shaw, of schr Journeyman; Capt. Reed, of schr Hattie Howard; C. H. Lane, of barge Judd & Jones; Capt. Murdock, of barge Helfenstein; and Capt. Foster, of schooner Homer. Capt. Foster is instructed to load with coal for Chicago, if he can get $1 per ton, otherwise run for the lumber regions for a cargo of lumber for Chicago.....All day Monday the ice passed down the river in large quantities. Some fields reached half way across the stream, and were at least an acre in size. The ice generally bore the appearance of being very porous, but it was doubtless much harder than it looked, as it clung together with tenacity. Tuesday morning very little passed down.

ERIE, PA.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

ERIE, Pa., April 28.—The schr Marco Polo has taken out her clearance for Sandusky.....Mr. James R. Willard, our able and efficient Collector, will establish a reading-room for the use of Captains, sailors, and others, in the Custom-House at this port. All the leading marine centres will be represented. THE TRIBUNE representing Chicago.....The prop Fred Kelley and the schr M. R. Warren have decided not to leave port until after the 1st of May.....The prop Alpena, grain-laden from Toledo, got stuck in the heavy ice just off the Lighthouse, and could not get out till the sailors had got off and cut her out on one side, when she backed up, and with a full head of steam on the vessel got safely through. The Alpena brought as part of her cargo 500 brls of flour. This is the first consignment of flour this port from Toledo in a number of years. The Alpena leaves again for Toledo this evening..... The prop Cormorant and her tow, the schr Charles Wall, came into port safely yesterday afternoon. These vessels got fast stuck in the ice off the Peninsula, and for twenty-four hours they moved but little, and it was feared necessary to cut a passage for the propeller, which the sailors with considerable risk did. As the mate forcibly but not elegantly remarked: "When we got in the ice once, we stuck like damnation."....The mammoth prop Persian left for Toledo yesterday morning, where she expects to load another cargo of corn for this port.....The prop Birchhead and her tow, the schr A. Gebhardt, arrived in port this morning. The Birchhead and the Gebhardt got fast in the ice off Girard (within sight of this port, the distance being only about 15 miles) Thursday night, about midnight, and, though the propeller made fruitless but energetic attempts to release herself, she could not, as her tow remained by her. During Saturday night the ice loosened, and Sunday morning the Birchhead got loose. Being short of fuel, the Captain determined to go to Cleveland for a supply, leaving the tow in the ice. He returned in the evening, and met the Persian plowing her way to Toledo. The tow was secured, and the vessels came safely through.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NAVIGATION ITEMS.

The ice upon the east shore of Lake Huron is very extended and thick. An east wind would pretty effectually close navigation along the west shore....A dispatch from Cheboygan says the ice in the straits is still solid and unchanged. The straits, it is believed, will not open before the 5th or 10th of May....At Hancock there is better crossing on the ice now than during the winter....A dispatch from Sault Ste Marie states that the ice has disappeared on the Canada side of the river, but remains firm on this side, so that people walk on it to the water's edge, where the ferry awaits them. The opening is about 50 rods wide. The river will probably be entirely cleared at this point in a week.....There was no ice to be seen in the lake at Port Colborne last Saturday, and it is said to have entirely disappeared from the shore at all points above. At Point Abino open water could be seen for several miles.

SUNDRIES.

It is now announced that the Welland Canal will be opened to navigation May 3.....The barge Guiding Star of the Grand Trunk Railroad line, which is now lying in Black River, has been chartered to take salt from Bay City to Chicago.....The prop Muskie is to run this season between Petoskey and Mackinaw in connection with the Grand Rapids & Indiana and the Detroit, Lansing & Michigan Railroads. She has received a new engine at Detroit.....Abbott, Foster & Titus launched successfully their new schooner, the Anna M. Foster at Port Burwell last Saturday.

THE COURTS.

Record of Business Transacted Yesterday.

DIVORCES.

The lines have not fallen in pleasant places to Mrs. Helen M. Harless, on account of the waywardness of her husband, Isaac A. Harless. This unfortunate individual is one of those whom the temperance crusade failed to reach and turn from the error of his ways, so that he is still in the habit of getting gloriously mellow, and then going home and reducing his wife to a like soft and flabby condition, by the scientific application of his fists and feet. A difference of opinion exists in the Harless family as to the harmlessness of such treatment, and the wife begs the Court to give her the benefit of the doubt, and grant her a divorce.

ITEMS.

Judge Tree will to-day decide motions for new trials in the following cases: Chladek vs. Monroe, and Schmidt vs. Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company.

Patrick Handrihan and Joseph Bush were tried by Judge Blodgett for passing counterfeit money and found guilty.

Judge Blodgett has discharged his jury.

UNITED STATES COURTS.

Jacob Frye et al. began a suit for $10,000 against Edwin Pattison.

W. A. Porter, Trustee, filed a bill against Asahel and Lucius Pierce and others to foreclose a trust-deed for $9,059.83 on Lots 20, 21, and 22, Block 59, of the original Town of Chicago.

SUPERIOR COURT IN BRIEF.

Moses Chapman began a suit in attachment against — Fraenkachel and E. Bienow to recover $1,500.

J. W. Gregg & Co., for the use of A. A. Munger, began a suit for $2,500 against T. S. Dobbins, G. S. Bowen, and J. S. Wilcox.

F. H. Freer commenced a suit by attachment against the Rock Haven Cement Company to recover $1,125.

CIRCUIT COURT.

Edward Gavin commenced an action in trespass against Joseph Mann and Daniel Culhane, laying damages at $5,000.

John M. Dunphy filed a petition against Francis A. Biddle and others, asking for a mechanic's lien to the amount of $4,715.34 on the property of the defendants, corner of Ashland avenue and Harrison street.

The People, for use of Peter Spink, began a suit in debt against J. H. Murphy, A. D. Waldron, and Daniel Sullivan to recover $2,000 damages.

Moses Shirra filed a bill against the Reformed Presbyterian Church and its Trustees to foreclose a trust-deed on Lots 15 and 16, Block 8, E. Gale's Subdivision of Block 12 in Carpenter's Addition.

Orville Peckham began an action against the Chicago, Lonisville & Vincennes Railroad Company, claiming $3,000.

Thomas Nicoles and Ephraim Addems sued Henry Laeger for $1,500.

James Clark brought suit for $3,000 against C. P. McKay.

THE COUNTY COURT.

On petition of John Dieden, County Agent, order warrants and venire, returnable this morning at 10 o'clock, to try the question of the alleged insanity of Henry Daw, Amelia Nelson, and Annie Duggan.

In the matter of the estate of James C. Fay, order to surviving partners to file inventory of partnership of the late firm of James Y. Fay & Co. within thirty days.

Susan H. Willard was appointed guardian of Kate S. Willard et al., minors, under an approved bond of $5,000.

In the matter of the special assessment rolls of the Village of Jefferson, order to file objections to the confirmation of rolls Nos. 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15 by Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

The statement of the assets and liabilities of the estate of Timothy Mahoney was approved.

Eliza A. Culver was appointed Administratrix of the estate of Warren T. Culver under an approved bond of $5,000.

Eliana Larson was appointed guardian of Lena Larson, a minor, under an approved bond of $2,400.

In the matter of the estate of Stillman A. Clements, probate of nun-cupative will refused, and petition for letters testamentary dismissed.

THE CALL.

JUDGE BLODGETT—Passed cases without a jury.

JUDGE GARY—41, 126, 136, 141, 148, 154, 157, 160, 167, 168, 169, 171, 173 to 193.

JUDGE MOORE—30, 31, 82, 83.

JUDGE ROGERS—37 to 45, 48 to 55, and term No. 1,351.

JUDGMENTS.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT—JUDGE BLODGETT—H. W. Bishop, Assignee of the State Insurance Company vs. Henry and Maggie F. Milward; decree, $10,522.69.

SUPERIOR COURT—CONFESSIONS—John C. McCord vs. John F. Thompson, $136.36.—Same vs. same, $40.85.

JUDGE BOOTH (acting for Judge Gary)—Joseph Farshing vs. Augusto von Schlieben, $703.—The Commercial Loan Company vs. William Patrick, $1,458.77.

CIRCUIT COURT—JUDGE ROGERS—A. S. Trude vs. E. Ousbbert and William Ousbbert, $507.30.

JUDGE TREE—Roxanna Davlin vs. W. P. Fowler and P. F. Buckley; debt, $500, and damages, $300.

Ice in the Atlantic.

New York Times.

The steamship Nova Scotian, which arrived at Baltimore on Wednesday, from Liverpool, via Halifax, reports that at 8 a. m. on the 14th of April, in latitude 42 deg. 20 min., longitude 49 deg. 10 min., an immense ice-field was met in the Atlantic. The steamship skirted its edge for five hours, and altered her course to escape it. From the mast-heads, as far as the eye could reach with the aid of glasses, an unbroken stretch of ice was to be seen extending for many miles. There was in it many small icebergs, and a number of vessels, some of them long distances from the outer edges, and seeming to have been caught there a long while before. There were a ship, two barks, a brig, and other vessels so far in that they could not be made out. This ice had come down from the Arctic regions, and the imprisoned vessels had doubtless come many miles with it, and will not be liberated until the warmer waters of the Gulf Stream melts them out. The steamship also reports that eight American fishing schooners had been forced to seek refuge in the harbor of Halifax, whore they were driven by the heavy fields of floating Arctic ice.

WAITING DEVELOPMENTS.

The Aldermen Are Not Ready to Become Martyrs.

Melancholy Caucus of City Officials---The Proposed Compromise.

Address of the Twentieth Ward Club---A Novel Proposition.

THE SITUATION YESTERDAY.

CITY-HALL CAUCUSES.

The injunction which followed so closely on the bogus election Friday was the chief subject of interest around the City-Hall yesterday, and in one way or another all the Aldermen had something to say concerning it. Several called upon Commissioner Mark Sheridan at about noon, with the avowed object of converting that gentleman to a belief in the efficacy of the Incorporation act. The President of the Police Board listened for quite a long time, the imperturbable, quiet smile playing round his mobile lips the while, and finally treated his visitors to an "oratorical entertainment,"—that is to say, a selection of readings from that portion of the Election law which designates the proper punishment of election judges who fail to do their duty. He had hardly gotten through when the Aldermen left the room suddenly, and held a little caucus, the object of which was to ascertain the exact amount it would take to get the judges of election in certain wards second-class tickets to Baltimore, or some other place to which the rate of fare has been reduced. The terrible suspicion that some of the judges may, when indicted, turn State's evidence is already interfering with the appetites of more than one of the City Fathers.

ALD. PETE MAHR

is still suffering from much trepidation. He will not turn a street corner without first peeping around it, refuses to sit down in any room which has not two doors to it and at least one of the windows wide open, and sees in every dark-bearded man who approaches the form of an Indignant Heeling. He sent word to that gentleman yesterday that he had the item he gave to the *Journal* reporter from one Sittig, an employe of the *Freie Presse*, and will not again feel secure until Mr. Heeing sends him a written token that that explanation is satisfactory.

CAUCUS OF ALDERMEN

discussed the question of what should be done for the unfortunate judges of election whom the Citizens' Association propose to prosecute. The idea of helping them out of harm's way was broached, but when one of the Aldermen intimated that the Association, baulked of its prey, might seek higher game, a panic fell upon the caucus, and they decided to do nothing further until they had consulted with George Miller, or Charley O'Malley, or some other prominent criminal lawyer.

Some of the Aldermen are regretting that they followed the advice of the City Attorney and respected Judge Williams' injunction, and all day long, and when he was occupied with the "Committee on Compromise," Mr. Jamieson was pestered with the inquiries of Aldermen, who wanted to know if it wouldn't be all right to count the vote at the special meeting. That official, however, stuck to his previous opinion, and alarmed the Aldermen to do nothing rash. The fact is that many of the Aldermen would not object to becoming imprisoned martyrs just for the sake of notoriety, forgetting that while there is something startling in the presence in a Chicago jail of an editor, the sight of an incarcerated Alderman would not be, by any means, so great a novelty. History repeats itself occasionally, and then, too, discretion is the better part of valor.

It has leaked out that while the Council Caucus, which last Monday considered the untimely injunction which put an end to the consummation of the election fraud, a majority of the City officer stood upon a shelf and declared himself ready to take the whole responsibility of disregarding the injunction, and to bear upon his head and shoulders the brunt of the judicial wrath to follow his act. He was gotten down from the chair, after a little trouble, and though he tried to renew his generous offer at the special meeting, not always easily seeing how he could shoulder the responsibility of the Council's act, paid him no further attention.

"Greatest mistake in the world to mind the injunction. I could have made it all right with Williams, you know. Judge is a particular friend of mine, you know. He said to me yesterday, 'Joe, my boy,'—here the rubicund clerico-civic official's voice sank to a whisper which was so utterly lost in the Alderman's ear he was boring that the reporter heard no more, and he left the spot wondering how long the City Government could stand if it was, as the song says, "not for Joseph."

What is commonly known around the City-Hall as

THE "COMMITTEE ON COMPROMISE."

held a prolonged meeting in the Comptroller's office yesterday about noon. There were present the Comptroller, the Mayor, the City Attorney, the City Clerk, Jake Rehm, and several Aldermen, and the utmost vigilance was used to keep the object of the meeting and its discussions a secret from the rest of the world. Enough has been learned of the affair, however, to guarantee the statement that the tone of the meeting was decidedly lugubrious, and that the seriousness of the situation is fully appreciated by the Committee. Several schemes were proposed by different members of the meeting, and one or two were hot for a contemptuous disregard of the injunction, but the ideas which found most favor was that proposed by the Superintendent of Police, and which is said to have emanated from the brain of the Hon. O. D. Farwell. It was in the nature of a compromise, the basis of which was that the Citizens' Association should abandon the injunction, letting it go by default; that the Council should be permitted to canvass the votes; that subsequently the alleged frauds should be fully examined, and the Council stand by the result of the examination. The meeting listened to the proposition, and, with one eye closed all round, agreed that it was in every respect a fair one, and such a just and honorable compromise as would suit such just and honorable men as those who effected the adoption of the Incorporation act. The only thing which puzzled them was just what the Citizens' Association would think of it. The Committee also had the city finances under consideration, which some think could be much bettered were the act of 1872 adopted, and the Comptroller free to act under it.

MICHAEL EVANS,

the South Town Collector, hopes to see every corrupt judge of election from start to trial, and, if adjudged guilty, sentenced to the severest penalty the law will allow. Ten years' more practice in stuffing ballot-boxes, he considers, will overturn this Government into monarchy. If called upon, he will testify to any Court as to the frauds he witnessed on the day of election. Governor Sheridan is all the while busily engaged in hunting up evidences of fraude, and, in case of a contested election, or of evidences of frauds being required, he will send in a long and a strong line of witnesses, who, he thinks, will send somebody to jail. Strongly as he opposes the faction who carried the election he refuses to affiliate with the Citizens' Association, as he maintains that they are the originators of the difficulty. Owing to this fact, strong attempts have been made to wean him over to the other side, and to silence him as to the frauds in the election, but the wily President remains stolid and indifferent, citing the maxim that "the receiver is as bad as the thief," and that since the *war* of extermination has begun he wants to fight it out.

Ald. George White thinks that Judge Williams overstepped his jurisdiction in enjoining a legislative body, and is of the opinion that the injunction cannot fail to be dissolved. The jurisdiction of the Council he claims to be as full as that of Congress, within its special sphere, and that no court has any control over it, other than in a trial for impeachment of any or all of its members. He is sorry that the Council repealed the objectionable ordinance at its last session, and would have liked to have seen any trouble about contempt. However, he is far from being anxious to fling defiance in the teeth of the Court granting the injunction, but prefers an amicable adjustment of the difficulty. Ald. Mahr's position is somewhat easier than the sons of the past, and corresponds almost precisely to that of Ald. White. Not one of them, so far as can be ascertained, is willing to take the risk of counting the vote Friday evening, unless some disposition has first been made with the injunction. Nor do any of them appear anxious to adopt the new Charter, as they much prefer the old one to either of the new ones, except so far as they can tantalize the Citizens' Association by attempting to work under it. All are apparently waiting patiently for the return of Judge Dickey, or for some reliable legal advice, preparatory to making any new advances to under the clarinet.

THE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

The committees of the Citizens' Association which are engaged in hunting up cumulative evidence of the frauds perpetrated at the late election, held a meeting at their rooms yesterday afternoon. The meeting did not come to order in due form until after Judge Lawrence had conveyed to it the cheering intelligence that he had been looking up the law in the case, and had come to the conclusion that if the proceedings in equity failed the case against the Council could be carried on under the common law. At this latter point of the proceedings the Secretary of the Society entered, and insisted upon the meeting being carried on in secret, and the reporters were obliged to withdraw.

TWENTIETH WARD FRAUDS.

ADDRESS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WARD CLUB.

The Executive Committee of the Twentieth Ward Club has prepared the following address to the public, setting forth the frauds perpetrated there at Friday's so-called election:

To the Public of Chicago: CHICAGO, April 28.—We deem the facts touching the shamelessness and illegality of the recent election in the Twentieth Ward deserving of specific recital and general attention. Those facts in part are as follows:

First—Even before the polls were opened the disreputable elements of the ward made an organized attempt to take possession of the voting-place. With a notorious and unreformed graduate of the Penitentiary as their leader, they assumed to dictate the conduct of the election, and defied interference.

Second—When in due process the friends of law and order demanded their rights, as plainly set forth in the statute, they were met with the grossest insults. They themselves, and their demand that challengers should be allowed in the room with the judges, were characterized in language too foul for repetition.

Third—Two of the judges of election were, from the outset, in evident collusion with the ruffians outside, —one of the two allowing himself to be publicly dictated to by the leader of the mob. To the open inquiry of "the ex-convict," as to whether he (the judge) remembered and would carry out the orders given him, and refuse the admission of challengers, he returned an open and affirmative reply.

Fourth—The conduct of a recently-elected (?) Alderman of this ward, and of a prominent county official whose principal duty is to preserve law and order, was shameless in the extreme; the former actively aiding his brother, "the ex-convict," and the latter being, throughout the day, in open and unblushing alliance with the leaders in the disorder and fraud.

Fifth—The two corrupt judges having finally been compelled, by fear of legal penalties, to admit challengers, and to put the ballots for the separate issues into separate ballot-boxes, yet refused utterly, in spite of all protests, to keep any poll-lists or tally whatsoever, or, in cases where votes were challenged, to use affidavits as required by law and provided by the ward Executive Committee,—even going so far as to order the removal from the platform of two clerks, who had been placed there by the citizens of the Twentieth Ward to keep a tally and list of votes, and, in compliance with the order, they were roughly thrown from the platform.

Sixth—When legal voters on the outside desired to challenge fraudulent voters, or to call, for that purpose, the attention of the challengers within, the mob endeavored to drown the demand by shouts and groans, and the judges ignored the challenge.

Seventh—During the afternoon of the day, and when the disorder had greatly increased, illegal voters were brought to the polls in wagons and omnibuses, and then dispatched to other wards.

Eighth—Just previous to the closing of the polls, the aforementioned Alderman, in disregard of law, directed the judges to exclude the citizens' challengers—honorable and respected citizens of the ward—*from the room*, as soon as the voting should be over, designating them as "a damned lynch-club."

Ninth—Although the whole number of votes cast, as proved by both the tally of one of the challengers and the tally of two reliable clerks outside, did not exceed 1,031, yet the declared vote was 1,276, showing some 250 votes to have been fraudulently put in by the judges themselves, or through their direct connivance.

Tenth—In the count the number of votes against the Incorporation act was declared to be 100 less than the real number. And when a recount was demanded by the citizens' challengers and one of the judges the demand was refused.

Eleventh—The ballot-box was not sealed after the votes had been canvassed and the result declared, nor were the votes either strung or sealed in envelopes.

Such, fellow-citizens, are some of the reasons which move our indignation and cause us to deny the validity of the election in the Twentieth Ward. That the illegality and fraud did not equal that of the First and Second and many other wards, was due to the determined, organized efforts of a few law-abiding men. We confidently appeal hereby to the good citizens of the ward and city to join us in denouncing the wrong, and in attempting by all legal means to prevent its repetition in Chicago. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
Twentieth Ward Citizens' Club.

THAT INJUNCTION BUSINESS.

A NOVEL OFFER.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, April 28.—That nervous old granny, the *Evening Journal*, has gone into a "conniption" fit over the injunction placed upon the Common Council by the Citizens' Committee.

The injunction has always been used to impede the ends of justice. Admit even once that it can be used to further the ends of justice, and the *Evening Journal* can see nothing in the future but endless injunctions and overturned elections whenever ballot-boxes are doctored and stuffed by roving barbarians and carpet-baggers who desire to elect themselves to office, and thus indirectly enter into and possess the land. According to that wise sheet, it would be better to allow any party to run the Government than to have an election contested. But these are days wherein a good many of the illusions of youth are vanishing, and when many of the gods before whom for centuries we have been taught ourselves to fall down are being overturned in the most reckless manner, and shown to be nothing but the work of men's minds and hands, and utterly unable to help us in times of distress and extremity, and possibly it may be shown that the *Evening Journal* is a worshiper of false gods. The writer does not wish to compliment the *Evening Journal* by making to the City of Chicago and to the Citizens' Association a straightforward business proposition as follows: The writer will undertake to run the Government of the City of Chicago on contract *for a term of years*, to decrease the taxes from 10 to 25 per cent below the present rate, and to reasonably expect to pay up the entire indebtedness of the city within fifteen years, and with lighter taxation to make more and better public improvements than at present, to close up the saloons and gambling-houses, and to decrease the open and notorious corruption in our courts by establishing courts of arbitration to which cases could be settled cheaply, rapidly, and honestly; all moneys collected by taxation to be deposited in the City Treasury, and until wanted for public use, to be loaned at the lowest current rate of interest on commercial paper with warehouse receipts and other first-class collateral security under the direction only of a board, composed of the best financiers and bankers of the city; all moneys paid out to be with the approval of same board, and also a committee, elected by the Citizens' Association.

Under some such system as this, with less care and anxiety pressing upon the minds of our citizens, and their efforts and labors not entirely thrown away in meeting the increasing exactions of relentless taxgathers, men could afford occasionally to add a book to their libraries, and gradually fill their homes with music, birds, flowers, and the comforts and elegancies of civilized life. Under such a contract the writer would endow our public schools, libraries, observatories, hospitals, etc., making them a greater power in the land, that they might go on blessing and dignifying the race.

Under such a regime, public and private improvements would be fostered and encouraged, manufactures would increase, and men of wealth and enterprise would flock to our city, bringing with them hosts of artisans and laborers, in order to enjoy its advantages and escape the exactions of rapacious tax-eaters in other cities. In a few years the city would be out of debt, and with many in its Treasury to loan in aid of every legitimate enterprise calculated to improve the city and benefit its inhabitants. Of course such a system would make no provision for the barbarous horde of office-holders, now virtually owning, robbing, and misgoverning the city, and in the end many of them might have the privilege of going out to cultivate the soil, make fruitful the waste places, and earn their living by the sweat of their brows, but if; as some philosopher has said, "He is a benefactor of his race who makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before," the end would justify the means, and the products of their farms would come in to add to the wealth, power, and dignity of Chicago. The subject might be enlarged upon indefinitely.

Now, all this is not the idle dream of an enthusiast, but, on the contrary, the honest judgment of a successful business man, who knows by long experience what hard work, honesty, and integrity will accomplish, and everything spoken of in this letter is both feasible and practicable. Chicago is original in many of its institutions, and why may it not be in its form of government for the city? Meantime let the *Evening Journal* take courage, and let us unitedly thank God for that much-abused organization known as the Citizens' Association. The mistake our people are making is in supposing themselves civilized, while the facts and results of the case go to show that practically we are a race of barbarians. Shall we continue to worship the false gods known as "precedents," and always remain so, or shall there be sound progress and improvement? HUMANITY.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

Illinois Grand Division in Session at Marseilles.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MARSEILLES, Ill., April 28.—The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of the State of Illinois assembled in semi-annual session yesterday afternoon. The Hon. W. C. Snyder, of Fulton, the Grand Worthy Patriarch, occupied the chair. The afternoon was mainly spent in the initiation of representatives, and routine business in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Order. Addresses were made by W. C. Snyder, of Fulton; J. Young, of Montgomery; J. O. Brayman, of Chicago; J. C. Sloughton, of Aurora; J. H. Hoxie, of Morris; D. Hurd, of Marseilles, and others. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Congregational Church, at which T. Moulding, M. Vancouve, J. O. Brayman, and S. C. Sloughton, spoke.

The session opened this morning at half-past 8 o'clock. The reports of the officers were read and appropriately received. These reports show that there has been an increase in membership and the number of divisions during the past six months. Springfield was agreed upon as the place of holding the annual session in October next.

Some business connected with the International workings of the Order was transacted.

At the closing of the afternoon session, the Executive Committee submitted their usual report, as also did the Committee on the Good of the Order.

Mr. Brayman, from the Committee on the Grand Worthy Patriarch, presented report thereon. A report was also received from the Finance Committee. These reports were severally adopted.

Delegates to the National Temperance Convention, to be held in Chicago on the 1st of June, were selected, as follows: The Hon. W. C. Snyder, Fulton; the Rev. W. R. Henderson, Chatsworth; the Hon. W. T. Hopkins, Morris; the Rev. J. C. Sloughton, Aurora; J. O. Brahman, Chicago; the Rev. G. W. Hughes, Lebanon; J. M. Vancouve.

The rest of the afternoon was spent upon business connected with the advancement of the Order. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Congregational Church, at which the Rev. J. C. Sloughton was the principal speaker.

BANK MATTERS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DES MOINES, Ia., April 28.—The National State Bank, of this city, has resigned its commission as United States Depository at Des Moines, which it has held for ten years. The reasons assigned by the officers are that it has held it long enough; but probably the amount of deposits has something to do with it. It has been a faithful agent of the Government, and remarkably prompt and correct in its affairs. It is probable the Citizens' National will be its successor.

S. R. Isham—he of Pacific Mail notoriety—will soon open a bank here, with a capital of $100,000. He was formerly in the same business here, and failed.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DES MOINES, Ia., April 28.—On the 20th of March last, Galusha Lee, a bachelor, who has been running a cheap goods store in the city for several years, locked his store to go to tea, and has not returned or been heard of since, except that about 6 that evening he was seen on the platform of the Keokuk Depot. He was owing several hundred dollars; and, after waiting a day or two, his creditors seized his stock, which was sold at auction. He was a very reticent man, appeared to be well educated, and lived by and within himself. The supposition was that he had escaped to get rid of his debts. On Saturday last, a man came here who claims to be his nephew, and says his name is Andrew W. Lee, and his residence New York. He says his uncle was rich and a miser; that, when he came to Des Moines, ten years ago, he had with him about $7,000 in gold, which he kept closely concealed; that he (the nephew) was here about a year ago, and, from circumstances, he then gleaned that his uncle must have had about $25,000 in his possession. He says his uncle formerly lived in Utica, N. Y. He subsequently taught school in various parts of Illinois. It is known here that he was quite penurious, spent little or nothing, and kept no account with banks. The nephew's theory is, that he suddenly became crazed, or has been foully dealt with. The latter supposition has the most weight, as no evidence could be obtained of him after he was seen on the depot platform. A telegram intercepted the conductor of the outgoing train, but he was not on it, or could not be discovered. Search was made at Keokuk and other places, and he could not be found. The matter has been placed in the hands of detectives, who are at work.

THE CUSTOM-HOUSE.

More Theories About the Foundations —The Investigation.

The excitement which has prevailed in the city in reference to the state of the Custom-House building has not abated, and great interest is felt everywhere in the result of the council which is to be held here to determine what to do with the unfortunate mass of cracks and plugged stone. Gen. Holman's office was yesterday the scene of interest, as usual, and the callers were numerous. Among them were Senator Logan and several other politicians, as well as some private friends of Gen. Holman. Outside the office, and grouped on the corners of the streets, were numbers of men who seemed to feel an interest in the progress or stoppage of the work. They were the workmen who had been thrown out of employment by the suspension.

THE ONLY DECAPITATION

which took place yesterday was that of John Stancliffe, foreman rigger, who has been in charge of the derricks. Nothing was alleged against Stancliffe, and the reason for his discharge seemed to be that he was a highly-salaried man, and that there was nothing whatever for him to do. In other words, Stancliffe may set his being dropped down to a wish for economy.

Mr. Mueller was present in the office yesterday, and in conversation volunteered an explanation of

HOW THE STONE CAME TO BE PATCHED.

It was, he said, the labor of the workmen who were in the habit of doing it without the consent of himself or his foremen. It was a hard matter to detect a properly patched stone, even after it had been in the wall some time. As a matter of interest it was asked whether, if the building were to come down, the patched stones would be put into the walls again. The reply was that they would not.

SEVERAL EXPERTS,

who gave their opinion yesterday, differed in opinion from Mr. Brannam, whose conclusions were printed yesterday. They thought that if the concrete foundation had been properly put in it would have been sufficient to hold the weight imposed. The question appeared to one of them to be whether in the present case the concrete might not have been badly put in. It was remembered that when the work was done large gangs of men were working nights, and the supposition is that in the hurry some portions might have been slighted. The speaker, who has seen more heavy foundations, probably, than any other man in America, said, in conclusion, that he considered an imperfect concrete about the worst foundation possible to build on. There is, then, a possibility that the method may be right, and the practice wrong. It is an unfortunate circumstance that nothing can be determined concerning the foundation without taking down at least a part of the wall. If the Council can find no other reasons than the defects in the foundation, they will probably cause this to be done in some particularly suspicious spot, and then the various theorists will have an opportunity to reconcile their beliefs with the state of facts found.

THE PRINCIPAL DESIRE

manifested all day on every hand was to see the visitors from Washington, who were expected in the morning. By comparison of their time of starting with the time-tables, it was figured out that Mr. Shuman and his assistant would turn up by noon; but such was not the result. Noon came and went, and the day passed on to closing hours, and no arrival was reported. At 5 o'clock the officials went home and gave up. Messrs. Shuman & Co. as a bad job for that day at least. When the officers in question do report, the consultation will commence at once; it will be strictly private, and confined to Gen. Holman, Mr. Oakshott, Mr. M. L. Holman, and Mr. Shuman and his assistant, together with such scientists as they may need in the mechanical and laboring way. The remainder of the present week will certainly be consumed in the investigation, and perhaps even more. It is not proposed by Gen. Holman to allow any one outside the party to know the result of the council until after it is transmitted to Washington and receives the sanction of the Supervising Architect.

THE BOSTON HERALD

(Dem.), in commenting on the promotion of Gen. Holman from Boston to Chicago, says:

This is a proper recognition of the services of an able, faithful, and efficient public servant, and, while we may say that we regret his removal from Boston, it is gratifying to know that his course while here has earned for him the approval of Secretary Bristow and the consequent promotion in his line of duty.

Personally, Gen Holman is an extremely quiet, unassuming, gentlemanly man, with a kind and courteous demeanor toward all. But in his office he is a strict disciplinarian, and if he made up his mind to a line of duty nothing could drive him from it. Against opposition he is stubborn and even rough, and the idea of driving him into submitting to the behests of the Post-Office Ring is one of the richest things in the whole affair. While in charge in Boston he attended strictly to his work, and was present all the time during working hours, or, if temporarily absent, his assistant-mechanic, who was his son, was there to see that every man did his work well. The men were hired at the prevailing rate of wages, and were paid all the Government guaranteed them for their work. All contracts for material were subject to competition, and all old material sold was accounted for to the Government. Gen. Holman in Boston is without a spot or blemish, and his influence as a healthy disciplinarian has been beneficial.

The above testimony from the source whence it comes is of considerable value, and the people may, if Gen. Holman is retained here, thank the Government for an honest man.

THE BUFFALO-GNAT.

The Insect Dealing Death Among Southern Farm-Stock.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 28.—Complaints are pouring in from all surrounding counties of the fearful destruction of horses and mules by buffalo-gnats. Many small planters, especially colored ones, are ruined by having their only horses or mules killed, and being unable to replace them at a time when they are so badly needed. The *Ledger* publishes a letter from a planter near Macon, Fayette County, wich says: "Not less than 300 horses and mules have died the past three days within 10 miles of this place. I went down to my farm yesterday, distant 6 miles, and counted thirty-seven dead on the way. I have lost four on my farm, and Dr. Hunter five, while some planters have lost as high as thirty head. It looks like starvation to a people without money. Some of the farmers will be compelled to turn out part of the crop planted, as they have no money to replace the stock.

SPRINGFIELD.

The St. Louis Dyke Troubles.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 28.—The dyke which St. Louis is building out into the Mississippi River opposite to Carondelet, and which has been the occasion heretofore of a correspondence between Gov. Beveridge and ex-Mayor Brown, is likely to get into the courts. Some of the property-owners on the Illinois side of the river, who are likely to suffer from the wash of the river, the dyke having turned the channel to the Illinois shore, it is said, will in a day or two apply to Judge Treat, of the United States District Court for Southern Illinois, for an injunction to restrain the completion of the dyke or the further prosecution of the work upon it. Among the land-owners are Gen. Charles E. Lippincott, ex-State Treasurer Rutl, and others.

THE CROPS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ERIE, Pa., April 28.—It is estimated that the peach-crop in this section will be very small this year. The heavy frosts and extreme cold weather of the past winter have affected fruits and crops of all kinds to a certain degree. Peaches and grapes will yield small, said an experienced gardener, but we will have a fair crop of apples and other smaller fruits. Winter wheat in this (Erie) county has been nearly all winter-killed. Some of the farmers are plowing up their sown winter-wheat fields and are preparing them for corn and other crops; others are sowing in spring wheat with the winter and dragging it in. Take it all in all, this section of Pennsylvania will this season yield an average crop.

THANKS "FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE HEART."

WELLINGTON, Lorain Co., O., Aug. 24, 1874.—*Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.*—DEAR SIR: Your medicines, Golden Medical Discovery, Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy, have proved of the greatest service to me. Six months ago no one thought that I could possibly live long. I had a complication of diseases,—scrofula, manifesting itself in eruptions and great blotches on my head that made such sores that I could not have my hair combed without causing me much suffering; also causing swollen glands, tonsils enlarged, enlarged or "thick neck," and large and numerous boils. I also suffered from a terrible chronic catarrh, and, in fact, I was so diseased that life was a burden to me. I had tried many doctors with no benefit. I finally procured one-half dozen bottles of your Golden Medical Discovery and one dozen Sage's Catarrh Remedy, and commenced their use. At first I was badly discouraged, but after taking four bottles of the Discovery I began to improve, and when I had taken the remaining I was *well*. In addition to the use of Discovery I applied a solution of Iodine to the Goitre or thick neck, as you advise in pamphlet wrapping, and it entirely disappeared. Your Discovery is certainly the most wonderful blood medicine ever invented. I thank God and *you*, from the depths of my heart, for the great good it has done me. Very gratefully, MRS. L. CHAFFEE.

Most medicines which are advertised as blood purifiers and liver medicines contain either mercury, in some form, or potassium and iodine variously combined. All of these agents have strong tendency to break down the blood corpuscles, and debilitate and otherwise permanently injure the human system, and should therefore be discarded. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, on the other hand, being composed of the fluid extracts of native plants, barks, and roots, will in no case produce injury, its effects being strengthening and curative only. Sarsaparilla, which used to enjoy quite a reputation as a blood purifier, is a remedy of thirty years ago, and may well give place, as it is doing, to the more positive and valuable vegetable alteratives which later medical investigation and discovery has brought to light. In Scrofula or King's Evil, White Swellings, Ulcers, Erysipelas, Swelled Neck, Goitre, Scrofulous Inflammations, Indolent Inflammation, Mercurial affections, Old Sores, Eruptions of the Skin and Sore Eyes, as in all other blood diseases, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has shown its great remedial powers, curing the most obstinate and intractable cases. Sold by all dealers in medicines.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

D. APPLETON & CO.,

549 & 551 BROADWAY, NEW YORK,

PUBLISH THIS DAY:

I.

A NEW VOLUME OF THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

The Chemistry of Light and Photography.

By Dr. HERMANN VOGEL, Professor in the Royal Industrial Academy of Berlin. With 100 Illustrations. Price, $2.

"The author has endeavored in this volume to give a popular view of Photography and the Chemistry of Light, showing their importance on science, Art, and Industry."

The Volumes of this Series already Published are:

THE FORMS OF WATER. By J. Tyndall.....$1.50
PHYSICS AND POLITICS. By Walter Bagehot.. 1.50
FOODS. By Dr. Edward Smith.....1.50
MIND AND BODY. By Alexander Bain.....1.50
THE STUDY OF SOCIOLOGY. By Herbert Spencer.....1.50
THE NEW CHEMISTRY. By J. P. Cooke, Jr.....2.00
ON THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY. By Balfour Stewart.....1.50
ANIMAL LOCOMOTION. By Dr. Pettigrew.....1.50
RESPONSIBILITY IN MENTA