THE CITY CHARTER.

THE NEW AMENDMENTS.

NEW SCHEMES OF THE CUSTOM-HOUSE FACTION—MAKING VAN NORT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT—ADDING THE CORPORATION COUNSEL TO THE STREET OPENING COMMISSION—OTHER CHANGES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, April 30.—The Governor signed the New-York Charter this morning. Thomas Murphy, with some of the lesser Custom-house politicians, came up from New-York, last evening, to urge the passage of a supplemental bill to amend the Charter, which will be introduced to-morrow. Besides rectifying clerical and verbal errors, the supplement will contain the following amendments to the Charter:

First: Making the Commissioner of Public Works a member of the Board of Apportionment, so that the new Board will consist of the Mayor, Controller, President of the Board of Aldermen, President of the Tax Commission, and Commissioner of Public Works.

Second: Adding the Corporation Counsel to the Street Opening Commission.

Third: Putting two morning and two evening papers and one German paper on the same footing in respect to all city advertisements as *The City Record*.

Fourth: Striking out the clause which repeals all special enactments exempting property of benevolent associations from taxation.

There is also a serious defect in section 115 of the Charter, which is to be remedied by a special bill, which was reported from the Grinding Committee this evening. It seems that the Charter as it now stands repeals the act of 1871 amendatory of the Charter of 1870, relating to assessments, in street openings without making any new provision on the subject. The result is that all public works are brought to a stand still, and an immediate remedy is required. Murphy, Bliss, Davenport and Company in making the original draft of the Charter appear to have had nothing distinctly in view except to control the appointing power and get possession of the offices, and the result is that the Charter as passed, which was constructed out of the original Custom-house framework, is full of defects, omissions, and blunders.

The provision to make the office of Controller elective will not be in the supplemental bill as introduced, but it is the intention to insert it if there shall appear to be a reasonable chance of carrying it through.

THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS.

HE IS DISPOSED TO MAKE HASTE SLOWLY—THOSE WHO ARE URGED FOR THE PROMINENT OFFICES.

The news that the Governor had signed the Charter spread rapidly through the city yesterday. It occasioned much comment, but very little surprise, as it was almost universally agreed that as soon as the Supplementary bill was passed by both houses of the Legislature the Charter would be signed. There is now much discussion as to when the Mayor will send his nominations to the Board of Aldermen. Wishing to ascertain whether or not the Mayor was willing to give this information, a reporter of THE TRIBUNE called on him yesterday. He seemed to be in excellent humor, and when congratulated over the ease with which he withstood the pressure upon him for office, he laughed and said he could bear up under it for some time to come. He was asked if he would send in his nominations all together or separately. He replied that he had not yet fully made up his mind. By the terms of the Charter he was given 20 days from the date of its passage in which to make his nominations. He preferred not to be hurried, as he would then be less liable to make mistakes. The present Commissioners held office until their successors were appointed, so that the public interests would not suffer from delay. There was some question as to the legality of the appointment of the new Excise Commissioners. If he became satisfied that the new appointees were legislated out by the new Charter he would reappoint them.

He was asked if any nominations would be sent in to the Board of Aldermen at its meeting to-day. He declined to say positively whether he would do so or not, and reiterated the apology that he wanted time to consider the matter before making nominations. Only in this way could he avoid mistakes that would not be easily rectified. Pointing to a heap of letters, the Mayor said that he had plenty of names from which to choose. There were many patriots, he said, who were willing to serve their country. Some applied personally for appointments, and others through the instrumentality of friends. Time would solve the question of appointments. At present he was not prepared to say anything definite.

During the afternoon there were a large number of callers on the Mayor. Among others were ex-Gov. Morgan, John J. Cisco, ex-Mayor Westervelt, Thurlow Weed, ex-Register John McCool, and a number of the members of the City Government. Among the many names that have been sent in to the Mayor are the following:

Police Commissioners—George W. Matsell, B. F. Manierre, Sheridan Shook, ex-Senator Abraham Lent.

Fire Commissioners—Gen. Alexander Shaler, Hamilton Bruce, Monmouth B. Wilson, W. Van Cott.

Commissioners of Charities and Correction—Gen. Jas. Bowen, Roswell D. Hatch, Robert B. Nooney, James Kelly.

Commissioners of Docks—Ex-Mayor Westervelt, Richard M. Henry, George B. McClellan.

Tax Commissioners—John Wheeler, Geo. H. Andrews.

Excise Commissioners—D. D. T. Marshall, John H. Voorhis, James L. Stewart.

Many other names have been sent in, but these are among the more important. The name of John A. Kennedy has been mentioned in connection with the Police Commission, but it is understood that he does not desire the office. Messrs. Nooney, Bruce, and Hatch are the nominees of the Apollo Hall Democracy. Mr. Lent is urged by Alderman Morris, a warm personal friend, and by leading Republicans of the VIIth Assembly District. It is generally believed that few of the present Commissioners in the various departments will be nominated by the Mayor. To use a popular phrase, there is a strong likelihood of "a new deal." Democrats and Republicans will alike receive consideration. It is not believed, however, that Tammany Hall will be represented. It is known that the organization, as such, has not asked for consideration in the distribution of patronage, believing it will be stronger next Fall by holding aloof. In any case, there will be much disappointment on the part of candidates and their friends when the nominations are made, as there are a dozen or more for each office. There is the usual talk of combinations having been formed in the Board of Aldermen to secure the nomination of certain men, and there has certainly been a deal of caucusing within the past few days; but those who are best informed say there is no doubt as to the result. There will probably be compromises made in some cases, but in the main the Mayor will send in the names of men of his own choice.

The Commissioners of Excise refused, yesterday, to grant any more licenses, and in the afternoon closed the offices, posting notices on the doors, as follows: "The office will be opened for business May 1." The term of office of the Commissioners expired yesterday. It is more than probable that the Mayor will decide to-day whether or not the Excise Commissioners lately nominated by him will enter at once upon the duties of their office, or whether they will need to be renominated under the provisions of the new Charter.

At the meeting of the Boards of Health and Police Commissioners, yesterday, ex-Judge Bosworth announced that the Commissioners are entitled to hold over until their successors are appointed, and the members signified their intention of doing so. There were absurd rumors in circulation throughout the city during the day that the Police, Health, and Fire Commissioners, the Superintendent of Police, and the Chief Engineer had decided to vacate their positions to-day. It is the opinion of the officers of each department that it will be best for the discipline and standing of the rank and file that the matter of appointments be settled as soon as possible. There is an uneasy feeling among officers and men, although no extended change is looked for. Among the clerical force the case is different. Very many of the employés expect that their official heads will be cut off soon after the appointments are made.

At a meeting of the XIIth Assembly District Republican Association, at Third-st. and Avenue C, last night, it was decided to unite with the German Republicans of the district in recommending a number of suitable men to the Mayor, from whom he should be requested to nominate one to a Commissionership or some kindred office.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Gov. Parker of New-Jersey has issued a proclamation convening the recently appointed Commission to suggest amendments to the Constitution, at Trenton on Thursday, May 8.

The Springfield (Ohio) *Transcript* asserts that ex-Congressman Shellabarger is deriving undue credit for refusing his back pay, and openly charges that he has drawn it and invested it in the stock of a national bank in that city. There seems to be room for Mr. Shellabarger at the front.

It is reported that the dodge of running for Governor with ultimate aims for the United States Senate will be tried by the following men in the coming elections: Adelbert Ames in Mississippi, Senator Lewis in Virginia, Gov. Noyes in Ohio, Gov. Austin in Minnesota, Gov. Booth in California. The plan is not much relished by the people at large, and those who wish to practice it successfully would be wise to keep dark about their real purpose.

A special dispatch from Frankfort, Ky., last night, says: The Democrats will hold a State Convention, to-morrow, to nominate a candidate for State Treasurer. Delegates are arriving slowly, and but little enthusiasm is manifested. It is probable that James W. Tate, the present incumbent, will be nominated without opposition.

Here is the latest Presidential ticket for 1876. *The Detroit Free Press* offers it: "What a fine ticket this would be: Colfax and Butler! Crédit Mobilier and Salary Steal! Surely the Republicans will not throw away this chance of coming out squarely and fairly in vindication of two such 'vilely traduced' men as Schuyler Colfax and Benjamin F. Butler."

The Utica Observer addresses this somewhat direct question to the senior Senator of New-York: "We are waiting patiently to hear from the Hon. Roscoe Conkling on the subject of the back pay plunder. Since his burst of eloquence in regard to those gentlemen who had 'written their names in the purple testament of bleeding war,' our Senator has preserved an unhappy silence. Is it his purpose to pocket $5,000 of the money stolen outright from the people?"

Representative Horatio C. Burchard of Illinois, who opposed the Salary bill in all its forms, has written a letter explaining his action with regard to his back pay. He says he considers that a man who cannot conscientiously accept the increased pay for the last Congress cannot do so for the next, when elected before the passage of the bill, as is the case with himself. He proposes to hold his back pay until the XLthd Congress shall have decided what action it will take upon the subject. If it repeals the increase, he will decline the back pay; otherwise he will accept it.

Speaking of ex-Senator Harlan's denial that he received $10,000 from the Kansas Pacific Railroad Company, *The Cincinnati Gazette* says: "The original statement which appeared in *The Gazette*, that Mr. Filley said at Pittsburgh that the railroad company paid Harlan $10,000, we are prepared to prove by an irreproachable witness. Further than this we have nothing to say, except that a stockholder in the road who is a resident of this city, and whose word is good for anything he might say, informed us that when he attended meetings of the proprietors of the road at St. Louis he frequently met Harlan at the meetings, and he has often inquired what business he had there."

The Governor and Council of New-Hampshire met at Concord, on Tuesday, to count the vote cast for Congressmen in the last State election. There will be no change in the vote as already reported in the Ist and IIId Districts. The returns for the IId District were found to give the election to the Hon. Austin F. Pike by seven plurality. At the request of the Governor and Council persons were heard on the question of correcting the election returns, errors in favor of the Hon. S. N. Bell having occurred as declared in Ward Five, in Manchester and in Hopkinton, the correction of which would give Mr. Bell a plurality, it is said, of 13. The power of the Governor and Council to go behind the records of votes in the several towns in the district was discussed at great length, and the Council adjourned without coming to a decision. Yesterday, the subject was renewed, and it was finally decided to refer the subject to the Supreme Judicial Court.

GOVERNMENT WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Thursday, May 1, 1873—1 a. m.

Synopsis for the past twenty-four hours.

The storm center in Kansas has moved slowly eastward, with high south-easterly and easterly winds, threatening weather, and heavy rain in the Mississippi Valley; south-easterly and southerly winds, cloudy weather, falling barometer and occasional rain in the Gulf States.

Cloudy weather, easterly and southerly winds, high but diminishing pressure in the South Atlantic States; cloudy weather, falling barometer, easterly and north-easterly winds now prevail on the upper lakes and thence southward to the lower Ohio and lower Missouri Valleys; light variable north-easterly and south-westerly winds, generally clear weather and high barometer over the lower lakes and Middle States; clear, cool weather and north-westerly winds in New-England and Canada.

Probabilities.

For the Middle States and lower lakes light south-westerly winds backing to south-easterly and north-easterly, clear and partly cloudy weather, high but diminishing pressure and rising temperature.

For New-England and Canada, generally clear weather, diminishing pressure in the evening, north-westerly veering to north-easterly winds, and slightly higher temperature. For the North-West and upper lakes, and thence to Kentucky and Missouri, north-easterly and south-easterly winds, threatening and rainy weather.

For Tennessee and the Gulf States, cloudy weather, occasional rain, south-easterly and south-westerly winds, and possibly clearing weather in the afternoon. For the South Atlantic States, partly cloudy weather and occasional rain. Cautionary signals continue at Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago, Grand Haven, Detroit, Toledo, and Cleveland.

Reports are very generally missing west of the Mississippi River.

RUBINSTEIN'S LAST CONCERTS IN AMERICA.

The series of piano-forte recitals with which Mr. Rubinstein purposes taking his farewell of America will begin at Steinway Hall on the afternoon of Monday, May 12, and close on the evening of Thursday, May 22. They are to be seven in number, and will constitute, we venture to say, the most remarkable performances of the kind ever given in America. Mr. Rubinstein intends to present in these recitals a review of the whole history of piano-forte music, from the time of Bach to the present day, each concert marking, so far as possible, a distinct era. In the first he will present specimens from Sebastian Bach's "well-tempered clavichord," from Emanuel Bach, Handel, Scarlatti, and Mozart. The second will be devoted to the interpretation of six of Beethoven's Sonatas. Schubert, Von Weber, and Mendelssohn make up the third. The fourth is given entirely to Schumann, and the fifth to Chopin. Field, Henselt, and Thalberg share the sixth with Liszt, who is represented by no fewer than ten pieces; and the last will consist of 29 of Rubinstein's own compositions.

A BELLIGERENT LAWYER.

The recent encounter between Jay Gould and Joseph J. Marrin recalls another of the same kind in which one of these same men figured. Some years since Mr. E. L. Fancher, now Judge of the Supreme Court, and Mr. Marrin were engaged in trying a cause before Judge Barnard in the Supreme Court, Circuit. In the course of the trial Mr. Fancher made a point of law for the Court to rule upon, which, if decided in the manner he hoped for and expected, would obviate the necessity of his summing up, as it would virtually give the case to his client. The Court, however, did not rule immediately, and when the time came for summing up, Mr. Marrin, who was the opposing counsel, made a long argument in behalf of his client. At its close Mr. Fancher arose to address the jury, when he saw the Judge shake his head. Not understanding what it meant, he began again, and the Judge repeated his negation which Mr. Fancher this time rightly interpreted as a signal not to continue as the Court had ruled in his favor. He thereupon resumed his seat and the Judge directed the jury to find a verdict for Mr. Fancher's client. This greatly annoyed Mr. Marrin, who thought that he had been made to appear ridiculous after his argument. He filed a bill of exceptions, and when the matter again came up before Judge Barnard, both lawyers met in a corner of the court-room. Mr. Marrin approaching Mr. Fancher accused him of having insulted him when the case was last tried. Mr. Fancher denied the charge, and Mr. Marrin repeating it, reiterated his denial. Thereupon Mr. Marrin lifted a bundle of papers which he had in his hand, and to the astonishment of all who saw the act, struck Mr. Fancher in the face, unobserved, however, by the Judge, who was trying a cause.

EXPLOSION IN A SUGAR-HOUSE

At 11:30 o'clock last night, a drying-machine in Durant's sugar-house, at No. 428 East Twenty-fifth-st., exploded with great force, injuring three workmen severely. George Rice of No. 122 Third-st. had one of his legs nearly severed, and was bruised badly upon the body. Luke Haley of No. 128 East Seventeenth-st. was severely cut in the thigh, and otherwise injured severely. Frank Duffy of No. 13 Pell-st. was painfully injured in the face and arms. Rice, who is injured dangerously, and Haley were taken to Bellevue Hospital, while Duffy was sent home. The building did not take fire.

The two-story frame dwelling of Catherine Schaffer at Meeker and Kingsland-aves., Brooklyn, was destroyed yesterday morning by fire, caused by the explosion of a kerosene lamp. The occupant, Adam Schadle, a liquor dealer, was intoxicated, and, it is charged, threw over the lighted lamp. Loss, $1,200; insured in the Relief Company for $700.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

....The Resolutes of Elizabeth, N. J., defeated the Yale College Nine, at New-Haven, yesterday, by a score of 11 to 10.

....The Massachusetts Legislature has passed the bill authorizing the annexation of Charlestown and Brookline to Boston by a vote of 129 to 94. It now goes to the people.

....The second game of the championship series between the Baltimore and Athletic Clubs was played in Baltimore, yesterday, and resulted in favor of the Baltimores, by a score of 10 to 12.

....The Hon. John A. Corey of Saratoga, N. Y., died in that town on Tuesday night. He was a resident of that place 40 years, and during his public career held the offices of President of the then Village of Saratoga, County Judge, and other positions of trust and honor. He was at the time of his death United States Commissioner.

PERSONAL—BY TELEGRAPH.

....Gov. Moses has appointed Le Grand Benedict Honorary Commissioner to the Vienna Exposition, for South Carolina.

....Secretary Belknap, Gen. Sheridan and party arrived at New-Orleans yesterday from the Rio Grande, en route for Washington.

....The President and party arrived at Omaha last night very late, being detained by a severe storm. They are expected to start for the East to-day.

OBITUARY.

THE HON. JAMES BROOKS.

The Hon. James Brooks died at his residence in Washington, D. C., last night, at 8:30 o'clock, in the presence of his family. He recognized those around him to the very last moment. He had long been in feeble health, from, as he himself frequently said, the effects of fever which he contracted in Asia. His death created profound sorrow in all circles of the community at the capital.

Mr. Brooks, whose career is invested with interest as a self-made man, an editor and politician, was born in Portland, Maine, November 10, 1810. His father was a captain and principal owner of a brig in the merchant service. His seafaring life kept him almost constantly from home, hence his son was left to the sole care of a mother, who from her energy and excellence of character was well fitted for the responsible duty. While James was yet a child, the vessel which his father commanded was lost at sea with all on board. By this calamity Mrs. Brooks was made a widow and left penniless, for all the property of the husband was invested in the vessel. The widow, now left as the sole support of herself and three orphan children, exerted herself with great energy to maintain her family. James was sent to the public school, where he studied eagerly, and exhibited remarkable thirst for knowledge. When eleven years old a situation was obtained for him in a store in Lewiston, then a frontier village on the Androscoggin. By contract with his employer he was to remain in his service until he was 21, when he should receive a hogshead of New-England rum. The store in which young Brooks was employed was a favorite resort of the village politicians of both parties, who came in the evening to hear the young clerk read the news. He gave them politics quite impartially, reading Whig doctrines from *The Portland Advertiser*, and throwing in a fair proportion of Democracy from *The Argus*. The town library was kept in the store in which young Brooks was employed, and this afforded him a free and wide range of attractive reading.

The employer of young Brooks took a great interest in his young clerk. He gave him opportunities of trading a little on his own account and encouraged him to save his money. Having discovered that James was desirous of obtaining an education, he kindly proposed to release him from all obligations of further service, and give him such assistance as he needed. Young Brooks gratefully accepted the offer, and in a few days made arrangements to enter the Academy at Monmouth, Me. He had saved money enough to pay the moderate price of $1 per week for board. Blessed with good health and devoting himself to hard study, he soon accomplished the purpose of fitting himself for teaching school. He then returned to Lewiston and taught school for the Winter at a salary of $10 a month and his board. The following Spring he found himself rich enough to enter Waterville College, where, after three years' study, during which he supported himself by teaching, he was graduated. He then returned to Portland, where he received charge of a Latin school, and soon after began the study of the law with John Neal, a celebrated lawyer of Portland, and well known as an author. This gentleman manifested great interest in his student, who, no doubt, obtained quite as much literary knowledge from the author as legal instruction from the lawyer. Mr. Brooks soon after began to write anonymous letters for *The Portland Advertiser*, a daily Whig paper, published by John Edwards. These articles were so popular that Mr. Edwards found out their author and made him an offer of $500 a year to write constantly for his journal. This work Mr. Brooks continued for an entire year, keeping school and studying law at the same time. At length it could no longer be concealed that he was in part editor of a leading partisan newspaper, and had taken sides against Gen. Jackson. This rendered it impossible for him to perform the duties of a teacher to his own satisfaction, and from that time he devoted himself wholly to *The Advertiser*, entering heart and soul into political life.

At this time, though only 20 years of age, Mr. Brooks began to attract attention as a political speaker, and soon became one of the most popular orators known to either party. The year he was 21, Mr. Brooks was elected to the Legislature of Maine. The next year he went to Washington, and began a series of letters from the national capital to *The Advertiser*, thus introducing "Washington Correspondence," which has become a feature in the American press. These letters, being a novelty and full of spirited description, were extensively copied both in this country and in Europe. When Congress adjourned, Mr. Brooks traveled through the South, and wrote a series of interesting letters descriptive of Southern life. This was in the days of South Carolina's nullification, against which these letters were trenchant and severe. The writer dealt with Slavery also, taking strong grounds against it. The success of Mr. Brooks's letters from Washington and the South induced him to form the novel plan of traveling over Europe on foot and sending to *The Advertiser* descriptions of what he saw. With a knapsack on his back, and letters of introduction from the first men of America in his pocket, he traveled over England and made himself familiar with its people. One day he dined with some nobleman, and the next walked 30 miles and slept in the thatched cottage of a peasant. He wandered over the hills of Scotland, and among the green fields of Ireland, seeing everything and describing with vivacity all he saw. He became acquainted with most of the great statesmen and authors of England. From England Mr. Brooks went to France. He crossed the Alps on foot, and made himself familiar with Switzerland, Italy, and portions of Germany. The letters written during these travels attracted great attention, and were copied and translated everywhere. When Mr. Brooks returned to America, he remained some weeks in New-York, and here offers were made him to establish a daily paper to be called *The New-York Express*. Parties here proposed to furnish the capital which was to offset the labor and talent which Brooks should supply as editor. The people of Portland, being reluctant to part with a young man of so much promise, offered to nominate him for Congress if he would return to them. He accordingly went to Portland, and became a candidate against F. O. J. Smith, very popular on the Democratic side, and a third candidate whose name was Dunn. The district had for years been a Democratic stronghold, and it was only by Dunn withdrawing that Smith was elected by a bare majority. Mr. Brooks soon after returned to his incomplete enterprise in New-York, and that year established *The Express*. Disappointment met him at the outset. Persons who had promised to supply the funds of the new enterprise failed to meet their engagements, and it was by the greatest labor and personal privation that he struggled under the load of debt laid on him from the first. But he had health and strength, and that indomitable energy which nothing daunts or dismays. He wrote leaders, acted as reporter, watched nearly all night for the arrival of ship news, and kept his journal up with an energy which the public soon began to recognize.

After a year or two *The New-York Daily Advertiser*, published by William Townsend, was consolidated with *The Express*. Gradually, but surely, the journal advanced in popularity under the management of Mr. Brooks, who became popular with the merchants as well as politicians.

During the memorable campaign of 1840 Mr. Brooks went to Indiana and stumped that State for Harrison. He became a great favorite and devoted friend of Harrison, and was one of the few friends admitted to his room during his fatal illness.

In the Summer of 1841, Mr. Brooks was married to Mrs. Mary Randolph, a widow lady of Richmond, Va. Such was his dislike of Slavery that he insisted that the emancipation of three or four household slaves belonging to her should precede the marriage ceremony.

In 1847, Mr. Brooks was elected to the State Legislature, and two years later was elected by the Whigs a Representative in Congress from this city, Horace Greeley being elected at the same time and in the same district. He served throughout the XXXIst and XXXIId Congresses, in which he distinguished himself by his eloquence of speech and effectiveness in debate. He was the associate and friend of Webster, Clay, and other leading spirits at that time, and kept pace with them in the stirring legislative movements of that period. Clay's efforts in the great compromise measures of the time met with his efficient support in the House, where all the varied knowledge which he had acquired in his travels, and in his editorial life, became available in his legislative career. About this time Mr. Brooks purchased Mr. Townsend's interest in *The Express*, and took his younger brother into partnership.

Soon after the close of the XXXIId Congress Mr. Brooks made another tour on the continent, and subsequently went a third time across the ocean, extending his trip to Egypt and the Holy Land. During these travels he acquired the German, Spanish, Italian, and French languages.

In the canvass for the election of a member of the XXXVIIIth Congress Mr. Brooks started as an independent candidate, but in the end the Democratic nominee retired, and Mr. Brooks was apparently elected by a large majority. He took his seat as a member of the XXXIXth Congress; but, after serving nearly through the session, his seat was successfully contested by William E. Dodge. Surrendering his seat some time in April, Mr. Brooks was unanimously nominated for the XLth Congress, and was elected by a majority of 6,000 votes. During the Autumn of 1867 Mr. Brooks was a member of the State Constitutional Convention.

Mr. Brooks was elected a member of the XLIst, XLIId, and XLIIId Congresses by large majorities, and was regarded for several years as the leader of the Democratic party in the House of Representatives. He cordially supported the Cincinnati movement, and labored persistently to induce the Democratic party to sustain it heartily. During the past year his name was prominently associated with the Credit Mobilier enterprise, and it is believed he felt acutely the vote of censure passed on him in the House for being connected with that concern. About a year ago he visited Japan and wrote an interesting series of letters thereon.

JOHN R. THOMPSON.

Mr. John R. Thompson, for many years Editor of *The Southern Literary Messenger*, and more recently connected with *The Evening Post* in this city, died yesterday at 5:25 o'clock at the residence of Mr. Isaac Henderson in this city. He had long been suffering from a constitutional pulmonary malady, and had lately undertaken a journey to the West in the hope that his health might be improved by the change. But the disease had attained too firm a hold for care or palliation. He returned on Tuesday, and sank rapidly and peacefully to his death.

Mr. Thompson was born at Richmond, Va., on the 23d of October, 1823. He was graduated at the University of Virginia in 1845, and after devoting some time to the study of the law, his bent for literature led him to assume, in 1847, the chair of Editor of *The Southern Literary Messenger*, which he conducted with such taste and skill as to give it at once the place it always occupied as the leading literary magazine of the South. He varied his work in this capacity with occasional journeys, and wrote a book of European travels, which was printed but never published, having been destroyed in the fire which consumed the bindery of Messrs. Derby & Jackson. During the war, in which he sustained with all his energy the Southern cause, he came North, in broken health and spirits, and soon found that his personal worth caused all political differences to be forgotten. He made many acquaintances and as many friends, and his last years, though marked by great physical weakness were probably as satisfactory as any in his life. He was an excellent literary workman, a clever and graceful poet, a man of good and solid education, a sufficiently broad knowledge of the world, and a liberal and genial spirit. In all personal relations he was a sincere and loyal gentleman. It is understood that he has appointed Mr. R. H. Stoddard to act as his literary executor.

STARTLING REVELATIONS.

HAD TAINTOR CONFEDERATES?

SINGULAR DISCLOSURES OF ATLANTIC BANK ACCOUNTS—SUSPICIOUS SPECIAL LOANS—A BROKER OBTAINS $90,000 AND HIS CLERK $55,000 WITHOUT VISIBLE SECURITIES.

The receiver of the Atlantic Bank yesterday completed a list of the depositors and the amounts to their credit, but refused to give a copy of it to a TRIBUNE reporter. Examination was also made by him of the special loan account, and some singular illustrations were brought to light showing the loose manner in which the affairs of the bank were conducted by the defaulting cashier. These were of such a character as to indicate not only criminality on the part of Taintor, but suggested to some of the depositors who learned the facts that Taintor had confederates as desperate as himself.

The special loan account shows that over $340,000 have been loaned on securities, all of which have disappeared. Of this amount, L. H. Niles, No. 8 Broad-st., one of Taintor's brokers—and, as far as known, his only broker—had received $90,000; and J. H. Conover, a clerk of Mr. Niles, who is said to receive only a small salary (named by some persons as low as $8 a week), had borrowed $85,000. Nearly all these loans had been made to Mr. Niles and Mr. Conover within the last three months. Only one loan of $10,000 is entered as having been made previous to 1873, and this was as late as November, 1872. All the securities deposited by Mr. Niles and Mr. Conover are among those said to have been stolen.

The books of the bank show that the concern was indebted to Mr. Niles to the amount of $50,000, represented to have been deposited by him; but Mr. Niles yesterday appeared before Receiver Strong, and, on being asked the amount of his claim against the bank, said it was between $200 and $300 only. This extraordinary discrepancy continued to puzzle the Receiver and the accountants until the close of the examination last night. The Receiver has caused inquiry to be made into the standing and credit of all Taintor's alleged brokers, and the mercantile agencies reports render still more suspicious their large operations for the account of the young defaulter.

Further inquiry into the accounts revealed that within 24 hours of the collapse one of the directors had overdrawn the account of his firm to the amount of $6,000. There was great reluctance on the part of the officers in charge to give the name of this director, but finally the reporter learned that the overdrawn account was that of Messrs. S. H. Raynor & Co. A check of this house for $15,000 was certified on Friday, and the bank failed on Saturday. There was only $9,000 to the credit of the firm. Considering the good standing of this firm the overdraft is insignificant; the house is good for many times the amount; and even the most excited depositors do not intimate anything wrong in this account. Mr. Raynor has been a director and stockholder for some years. None of the suspicions directed against the directors at the intemperate meeting of the depositors, which was promptly rebuked by Col. A. C. Davis, acting for the largest depositors, now prevail, and the committee appointed at Col. Davis's suggestion, and headed by Mr. W. J. A. Fuller, repose entire confidence in the good faith of the directors and stockholders. Of course, these revelations about the special loan and the overdrawn account created great excitement among the depositors who were informed of the facts, and suggestions were made that steps be taken against the alleged brokers. But nothing was accomplished in this direction, it being shown very clearly that the brokers, while admitting the loans, could demand the return of the alleged securities before being forced to repay the bank.

No additional developments were made public, the receiver stating that as yet he is unable to make an intelligible official statement.

A QUESTION OF RESPONSIBILITY.

The Stock Exchange Governing Committee held a meeting yesterday, and appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. Garland, Seymour, and Martin to confer with the Clearing-house Association in the matter of checks certified by Clearing-house banks and deposited in banks of that association. This action is the result of the failure of the Atlantic Bank. Prior to this it was the belief among stock brokers that when they deposited checks certified by Clearing-house banks in banks belonging to that Association, their responsibility ended and the banks assumed the risk. When the Atlantic failed, however, several checks which had been certified by it and deposited in other banks were returned through the Clearing-house to the depositors, who were obliged to bear the loss. It is to settle this important matter that the Stock Exchange desires to confer with the Clearing-house.

THE DEFAULTER IN COURT.

F. L. Taintor, in charge of Deputy United States Marshal Crowley, was brought before Commissioner Osborn, yesterday, and his counsel, Mr. Sherwood, asked for an adjournment of one week that he might determine what course to pursue.

Assistant United States District-Attorney Purdy said that though the Grand Jury had ordered an indictment against Taintor, none had been drawn for want of time; that if the prisoner demanded it, he was entitled to an examination before the Commissioner; and that he had no objection to the proposed adjournment, which was granted.

If the Commissioner should discharge Taintor he would be immediately arrested on the indictment, and the law punishes the crime alleged to have been committed by him with not less than five nor more than ten years' imprisonment, and a fine of $10,000.

THE CONTINENTAL BANK ALL RIGHT.

The Clearing-house examination into the affairs of the Continental Bank on Nassau-st., the result of which was announced in yesterday's TRIBUNE, has elicited the following: Discounts of good mercantile paper aggregate $1,100,000; call loans, $700,000; amount of legal tenders and gold, $650,000, and net deposits, $1,700,000. The Committee, after appraising the assets at their lowest value, reiterate the declaration that the capital was impaired not quite 5 per cent, and also express their confidence in the manner in which the affairs of the bank were conducted.

SALE OF A DIRECTOR'S PROPERTY.

A sale of the property of Walter Roche took place yesterday for the benefit of the Guardian Savings Bank. The whole of the property advertised was not sold, the trustees deeming the prices realized not sufficiently high. The house and lot No. 27 Mulberry-st. were sold to James McKane for $8,900. Front and rear houses No. 121 Baxter-st. were sold to George S. Walsh for $13,500. House and lot No. 74 Mott-st. were sold to George S. Walsh for $13,000.

TROUBLE BETWEEN THE PENNSYLVANIA AND CONNELLSVILLE RAILROADS.

PITTSBURGH, Penn., April 30.—About 3 o'clock this afternoon the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company sent a force of men to restore the track on the Bradford branch which was destroyed some weeks since, as charged, by parties acting under the direction of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The laborers were met by a force of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, 200 strong, who prevented the accomplishment of the work by demonstrations of violence. They also burned two small bridges on the part of the road next to the main line of the Connellsville Road, thus effectually defeating the object of the expedition. The Connellsville force quietly withdrew, according to orders. The interruption to travel has been the cause of serious complaints from persons doing business on the branch roads. The Connellsville Company has filed a bill in equity to prevent further interference with their alleged rights. Argument will be heard in the Supreme Court at Harrisburg, next week.

HOME NEWS.

THERMOMETER, YESTERDAY, AT DICKINSON'S, IN PARK-ROW.

9 a. m.—37° Noon—59° 3 p. m.—59° Min. 33°—43° Average—51°

PROMINENT ARRIVALS.

Brevoort House—The Hon. Donald Bruce Ogilvy of Aberdeen, Scotland; Count de Gloutsof and the Hon. John Bruce Ogilvy of Scotland, Count de Lagrange of Paris, and Wayne McVeagh of Harrisburg, Penn.... *Westminster Hotel*—The Hon. A. L. Pelham of London.... *Albemarle Hotel*—Viscount Lichtenvelder of Paris, and Judge Morell of Pekin, Ill.... *Fifth Avenue Hotel*—Ex-Gov. Burnside of Rhode Island.... *St. Nicholas Hotel*—The Hon. John T. Van Allen of Watkins, N. Y.; Charles Fisher of Cleveland, and Dr. J. S. Delevan of Washington.... *New-York Hotel*—Count James Mercloff of Cuba.... *Grand Central Hotel*—Judge Charles Daniels of Buffalo, and Judge Theodore Miller of Hudson, N. Y.... *Astor House*—Hon. Thomas C. Sedgwick of California.... *St. Denis Hotel*—Hon. A. Lee Stranahan of New-Haven.... *Metropolitan Hotel*—Judge T. W. Hughes of Pennsylvania, and E. W. Eles of Washington.... *Clarendon Hotel*—Miss. Octavia W. Le Vert, Mobile.

NEW-YORK CITY.

A new time-table on the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad takes effect to-day.

The Quarantine Commissioners have caused the vessels Illinois and Delaware to be anchored in the Lower Bay for the season. They will be used as hospitals.

The steamer Cuba, formerly running between Baltimore and Havana, has been purchased by F. Alexandre & Sons, who will shortly put her on their direct line to Havana.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Sawyer was in consultation yesterday with Collector Arthur, Naval Officer Laflin, and Surveyor Sharpe, but the details were not made public.

In the suit of Charles Fechter agt. Mr. Sherman, growing out of the troubles as to the new theater, Justice Barrett has decided to vacate the attachment and order of publication of summons issued against the defendant.

There was quite an exciting chase, yesterday afternoon, in West Broadway, after an escaped mocking bird, in which about 20 men and boys engaged. The bird finally alighted on a loaded cart and was captured under the carman's hat. The baffled hunters looked very much disgusted as he drove off with his prize.

Poor humanity is vindicated in an unexpected quarter. A toy dealer in this City of Mammon states that when panics are distracting Wall-st. his trade is most active. Few expensive playthings are sold, but business men, as they pass up Broadway to their homes, dejected and in the shadow of ruin, stop at a store and buy cheap toys of some kind that will bring cheering smiles to their children's faces. "So, you see, Sir, these ... and bears have tender spots inside their tough hides after all."

Alfred Wicks, who died, suddenly, of pleurisy, on Thursday, at his late residence, No. 11 Lefferts-place, Brooklyn, has been identified for the past 15 years with the firm of Phelps, Dodge & Co. of this city. He was born in England, and came to this country in early manhood. He entered the employ of this firm as assistant cashier, and by faithful service earned rapid promotion. During the war he was the correspondent of several English journals.

The Grand Army of the Republic met last evening, at Nos. 114 and 116 East Thirteenth-st., to make further preparation for Decoration Day exercises. A Memorial Committee was chosen, with Gen. Sharpe as its chairman. An Executive Committee, consisting of one delegate from each of the ten posts in the city, who will have the supervision of the exercises, was also appointed. An invitation has been extended to Gov. DIX, asking him to preside at the evening exercises in the Academy of Music. Another meeting of the Grand Army will be held next Tuesday, for the purpose of appointing special committees of arrangements.

BROOKLYN.

The term of City Judge George Thompson expired yesterday, and to-day Judge George G. Reynolds will occupy the bench.

The petition of John G. Leeds to have vacated the assessment of $127,000 for a main sewer constructed through Third-ave. was argued before Judge Pratt and denied, yesterday. The case will now go to the General Term.

Room No. 13 in the South Brooklyn Savings Bank building, at Clinton and Atlantic-sts., occupied by the janitor, Mr. Woolton, was broken into by burglars Sunday night, and robbed of $300 worth of jewels and clothing. The police made no report of the affair.

Sanford M. Murray, the gas collector, who was attacked and terribly wounded with an ax, while collecting a bill in the office of Dr. Edward M. Brown, in William-st., New-York, a few weeks since, is now lying in a precarious condition, at his cousin's residence in the Eastern District, and it is believed will die from his injuries. His ante-mortem statement has not yet been taken, as the attending physician has not informed Coroner Whitehill that it is necessary.

HUDSON RIVER COUNTIES.

POUGHKEEPSIE.—The students of Vassar College celebrated the birthday of its founder, Mathew Vassar, with attractive exercises last night. The interior of the college was handsomely decorated, the halls and chapel being hung with festoons of evergreens and flowers. The exercises opened with an organ voluntary, followed by the offering of prayer by President Raymond. An address was made by the Rev. Phillips Brooks, after which the company partook of a plentiful collation in the dining-room of the college.

MELROSE.—Coroner Miller's investigation in regard to the recent homicide will be resumed at the Morrisania Town Hall this evening.

NEW-JERSEY.

JERSEY CITY.—F. H. Kendall, Ticket Agent of the Central New-Jersey Railroad Company, at Communipaw, was charged yesterday by H. P. Baldwin, the General Passenger Agent of the Company, with being a defaulter to the extent of $135. Justice Davis issued a warrant, but Kendall was not to be found.... Henry Johnston, an employé of the Gas Company, residing at Newark-ave. and Barrow-st., died, yesterday, from injuries received a week ago, in striking his head against a beam while ascending from the cellar of a house where he had been examining the meter.... The Horseshoers' Association will take part in the Parade in New-York on the 12th