Chicago Tribune.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 1864.

THE CITY.

CHRIST CHURCH.—The annual election of Wardens and Vestrymen of this parish was held at the Orphan Asylum last evening.

LOOK OUT FOR SNEAK THIEVES.—Eight cases of robbery from the halls of dwellings were reported at the Central Police station yesterday. Look out that your hall-doors are securely fastened and never left open.

"FIFTH WARD.—There was a meeting of the Republicans of the 5th Ward at Phillip Hober's house on Archer Board, last night. The enthusiasm manifested by those present was cheering, and indicative of a vote in the old Fifth which will astonish the Copperheads.

GOLD FROM IDAHO.—Mr. Joseph M. Lyons, of the Exchange Office, No. 84 Clark street, has become the purchaser of a nugget of gold weighing 27¼ ounces, brought from Idaho by Frank N. Thompson, a resident of Bannock, in that Territory.

OPENING DAY IN NEW YORK.—On the third page our lady readers will find a full description of the New York spring fashions, given with all the amplitude and particularity of the professional Jenkins. The new styles are remarkable chiefly for their folly and costliness. They indicate that the reign of shoddy is in full blast. Ere long, there will be a tumble, when the neck of many a fond deluslon will be broken.

TO WARD COMMITTEES.—Will our friends, in their notices of meetings in the different sections of the city, be careful to indicate the *place, street and number* where the gatherings are to be held, as well as the time? In the notice appearing in another column for a meeting in the 13th ward, the name of the house is given, but not that of the street or the number. These 13th ward meetings are interesting to outsiders, and many would like to attend them if they knew where to go.

A TRIO OF PICKPOCKETS COME TO GRIEF.—Three of the light fingered gentlemen, named John Thomas, William Thomson and Charles Woods, alias *alias*, were arrested last evening by Detective Dixon, and furnished with lodgings in the lock-up. They give their "local habitation" as Cleveland. They were seen trying to "graft" on some unsuspecting countrymen, in the big crowd at the Court House, while the inaugural ceremonies of the Fenian Fair was going on.

RECRUITS FOR THE COLORED REGIMENT.—Five additional recruits for the Colored Regiment, stationed at Quincy, were forwarded last evening. It will gratify the friends of this regiment to know that it is very nearly filled, and that it will soon be in a position to take the field. In point of discipline, physique, and morale, there is not a regiment from Illinois that will surpass the First Regiment Illinois Colored Volunteers, and we shall be grievously disappointed if the record they shall make will not be altogether creditable to the State which sends them into the field.

THE SECOND WARD IN THE FIELD.—At the meeting of the Union voters of the Second Ward held at No. 202 South Wells street, on Saturday evening, a committee of three members, consisting of Isaac Spear, H. C. Ballard, and George Schmidt, was appointed to prepare for a thorough canvass of the Ward with reference to the nomination and election of an Alderman at the coming charter election. This committee announce a meeting of the unconditional Union men of the old Second, at John Streber's house, 340 State street, near the engine house, on Wednesday evening, March 30th, to which all men who love the Republic more than party, and who desire to have a hand in the approaching revolution, are invited to come.

PITTSBURGH SANITARY FAIR.—Pittsburg has decided to have a great Sanitary Fair. As is well known when the North Western Fair was held in Chicago last October, Pittsburg came forward in the noblest and most liberal manner, and was the first to extend the hand of greeting when the undertaking was novel and suspected. She was also the largest outside contributor to the North Western Pioneer Fair. The question presents itself, what will Chicago do for the Pittsburg Sanitary Fair? It is proposed to hold a meeting at the Young Men's Christian Association Rooms, Methodist Block, on Tuesday, at 3 o'clock p. m., March 29th. All willing to reciprocate past favors and aid in the cause of suffering patriotism, are invited to attend and assist in devising some definite plan of action.

MEETING IN THE SEVENTH WARD.—The Seventh ward Union men are bearding the lion in his den. Astonishing as it may seem they propose to carry that ward—the abiding place of John Comiskey and Ex-Alderman J. E. Abbott—at the ensuing charter election. The ward was carried for Hoveln-Sherman at the last Mayoralty election by three hundred and seventy-five majority, and this they expect to overcome. Whether they view matters through a rose-colored medium or not we are not prepared to say, but we are prepared to say that if they enter into the canvass as they have begun, and work with determination and energy, they will deserve success, if they cannot achieve it.

The meeting last night was a step in the right direction. A goodly number assembled at the house of John Kentemayer, near the corner of Halsted and Twelfth streets, and opened the ball by selecting P. A. Smith, Charles Lattiny and Dr. Matthio as a Ward Committee. After listening to remarks from persons present, in English and German, the meeting adjourned to meet again on Saturday evening next, at the house on the corner of Twelfth and Union streets. Eminent speakers will address the meeting.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.—The Thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry, another band of heroes, passed through Chicago yesterday, on its return to the seat of war. The regiment, under the command of Colonel Linde, arrived at the Milwaukee Railroad from Racine about twelve o'clock and the boys were taken to the Soldiers' Rest, where a substantial dinner was awaiting them. After dinner the men formed into line in front of the Rest, and before departing, gave three rousing cheers for their friends, the ladies of Chicago. They then left by Cincinnati Air Line, for Nashville, Tennessee. This regiment passed through our city about a month ago, when a full account of its glorious history was given in the TRIBUNE. It now numbers about 850 men, of whom 150 are recruits, and is one of the finest bodies of men that the State has produced.

The gallant 51st Illinois infantry, which for the last few weeks has been quartered at Camp Fry, left the city yesterday afternoon for Chattanooga via the Michigan Central Railroad. The regiment arrived in Chicago one month or so ago, at which time a full account of its history was given in the TRIBUNE. The men leave under the command of Col. L. P. Bradley, and are considerably strengthened by recruits.

JOHN COMISKY AND THE FENIANS.—Quite an interesting complication is on the carpet between John Comisky the Alderman and editor of the traveling Abbott, and his Fenian friends. John has heretofore been considered the high cockalorum of the Fenians, and his remarkable reticence and absence from its demonstrations yesterday occasioned considerable remark. John is President of the Sons of Erin. This body participated in the procession on St. Patrick's Day and the Alderman was one of the marshals on that occasion. Last Saturday night the Sons held a meeting at their hall, and John used his influence to prevent them from joining out yesterday, alledging as a reason that such a step would be distasteful to the Bishop. The Sons finally decided not to join the Fenians. Of course they are hugely disgusted, and swear bloody oaths about John, and say if his vacillation was intended to secure political support he has missed his calculations. When the Fenian movement was first inaugurated, John hoped to make political capital out of it, but so far from it but Storey and his Copperhead brethern are disposed, after a careful canvass of votes, to side with the Bishop. They cracked the lash, and John jumped square again into the traces. The Fenians are a power in this city, and if he waits patiently until the morrow of the election, he will have a realizing sense of the fact.

THE FULTON STREET SWEEP.—Soon after the induction into office of S. S. Hayes, the City Comptroller, a year and a half ago, it was observed that the Board of Public Works commenced the construction of a sewer along Fulton street in the West Division. This sewer was continued westward across the prairie until it reached the corner of Sheldon street, the residence of the Comptroller. People were curious, and began to ask why the improvement was necessary. They could see that for three quarters of a mile it traversed a street sparsely settled; they knew the inhabitants along the line did not clamor for it, and they were forced to the unpleasant conclusion that S. S. Hayes, the Copperhead Comptroller of the city of Chicago, the prime minister and favorite counter of horse-sense-*horse-in-a-few-remarks-for-the-sake-of-facilitating*-business-Sherman, was using his influence as chief municipal officer next to the Mayor, to secure the construction of improvements *for his private and personal advantage*. We believe this conclusion a correct one. However unpleasant the charge, and however discreditable to the good name of the city, we are forced to believe it true.

The Board of Public Works were anxious to dispose of Sewerage Bonds for funds to enable them to build sewers in localities where they were imperatively demanded, and the Comptroller was asked to negotiate the same. Whenever the project was broached, the Comptroller very pointedly inquired "How about the Fulton street sewer?" This occurred so often that the Board accepted his conduct in the matter as a refusal to issue and dispose of the bonds unless the Fulton street matter was first "arranged." The Board were unwilling to undertake it, but as it was evident that not otherwise could the means be obtained to continue the building of sewers in portions of the city thickly populated, the work was undertaken. Comptroller Hayes was accommodated, and the city saddled with an enormous debt for the sole purpose of giving value to that officials private property.

The conduct of Hayes in this sewer matter reminds us of an anecdote related of that Granger, who used to be irreverently called "Plug," who once occupied a relatively similar position in the old municipal government. Soon after his election, it was observed that certain North Side improvements in which he and no one else had an interest, were pushed forward at an astonishing rate. Some one was speaking to a member of his family, of his official position, when she replied, "Yes! Mr. Granger is the most public spirited man in the Council from the North Division. He had not been three months in office before he had Lasalle street improved *clear outdo his foundry*.

This is one of the beauties of Copperhead rule. The point of especial significance in this connection is, do our citizens wish this rule to be perpetuated? If yes, they will elect a Copperhead Council. We have other facts in our possession, which, at the proper time, will be published, and which will make the Copperhead officials stink in the nostrils of decent people, worse even, if po-sible, than the Copperhead Council.

IRISH NATIONAL FAIR.

Opening Day—The Procession and the Rain—Gathering in Court House Square—Inaugural Speech by Lieut. Gov. Hoffman—The Governor's Dinner, &c.

The grand Irish National Fair, for which the Fenian Brotherhood have spent several months in making the necessary preparations, was formally opened yesterday. It was announced in the city papers that a grand procession would also take place, adding lustre to the proceedings. This part of the programme was, however, prevented whether the fates having so ordained it. Early yesterday morning a rain storm set in, rendering the streets almost impassable with mud, but towards ten o'clock had partially ceased. The thick, dull, heavy clouds began to break, and father Sol occasionally displayed his gleaming countenance to the great delight of those who had given themselves a holiday. All took advantage of this lull, and the principal streets, in a very few minutes, were crowded with a living sea of humanity. Either side of the streets on which the procession was to pass, was walled up with an excited and enthusiastic crowd, composed of men, women, and children. Some had umbrellas and some had not, and those who had were well provided for. A few minutes after 10 o'clock the different divisions of the procession, headed with brass bands, marched to their respective positions where they remained for orders. On Lake street stood the Fenian Brotherhood, composed of the "civics" and four companies of the Fenian Brigade under arms, in command of Colonel Scanlon. On Washington street stood the fire brigade, with steamers and hose carts, gally caparisoned with streamers, flags and rosettes, and the German Turners, whose white uniforms lended very picturesque in a drenching rain. On Madison street were a large number of citizens, composed principally of members of several Irish associations who did not turn out in regalia, and a hose company from Carville headed by a fife and drum band from Camp Douglas.

The lull in the watery element was, however, of short duration. The sky once more became overcast with dull heavy clouds, which entirely obscured the great royal rays of the sun. Presently a drizzling rain, and a very chilly one at that, began falling to the entire discomfort and mortification of those who anticipated a day of joy and pleasure. Umbrel as were quickly expanded, and those who were so fortunate as to possess those articles of general utility, were rendered in a measure secure from the drenching rain. Those who were not provided with these indispensables, rushed for the lee side of houses, fences and buildings, those who did not have this opportunity were forced to bear it with martyr-like heroism. At the Bishop's palace quite a sugrestive little scene was enacted: many rushed to the palace and sheltered themselves as a protection from the rain—some even taking possession of the spacious entrance opening off Madison street. Those, however, who were assigned places in the procession did not allow the rain did not in the least cool their ardor. The marshals of the day, seeing that the fates were against them, consulted among themselves, and hastily galloping from one one division to another, gave orders to the various marshals to disband. The Turners took up the line of march and went to their Hall, the Fire Department started off with their hose carts and steamers for their respective stations, and the Fenians marched to their Hall on Randolph street, where they were disbanded, while the crowd, generally wet and hungry, went to their respective homes to ruminate on the old proverb, "the best laid schemes of mice and men go aft agee."

The city fathers, better known at Comisky's menagerie, treated their Fenian Brethren in a shameful manner. John Comisky and "Hove-in" Sherman were *without* quantities. The latter gentleman did not probably feel like "hoving-in any remarks or elucidating any 'pints,'" and accordingly went out of town. John Comisky, who on St. Patrick's day was all the cock a lorum, did not make his appearance, neither too did the society over which he exerts unlimited control. There were about a dozen members of the Council present, most of them being Republicans. His Excellency Governor Yates, was not present—important business having called him to Vicksburg. Lieut. Gov. Hoffman, however, was present and acted for him.

IN COURT HOUSE SQUARE.

The procession of the morning broken up by the rain was partially re-formed in the afternoon. The Light Guard Band visited the Fenian Hall and brought down the members of the organization to the Tremont House, where were in waiting Lieut Gov. Hoffman, the members of the Polish Committee and several members of the Common Council and Board of Education. Carriages were in waiting which they entered and passed in procession around the principal streets to the Court House square where a large crowd had assembled patiently. At 3 o'clock the Brotherhood marched along the square to the south entrance, where the assemblage was addressed by Lieutenant Governor Hoffman as follows:

ADDRESS OF LIEUT. GOV. HOFFMAN.

Fellow Citizens: In the absence of Governor Yates, whose official duties have called him to distant fields of labor, and at the request of the Executive Committee, I the Lieutenant Governor of the great and glorious State of Illinois, do hereby declare the National Fair of the Fenian Brotherhood open. [Loud cheers.]

May its progress be far beyond the most sanguine anticipations of its best friends, and may its final results have evidence that the people of these great and glorious United States have in their heart in their bosoms for the oppressed and down trodden nations of the Old World. [Hear, hear.] May the result show, may it give good evidence that free Americans would like to see down trodden and oppressed Ireland also free. [Loud cheering.] May the result show, and give good evidence that there is a firm determination in the hearts of Irishmen to break down that terrible oppression which for the last 500 years has made Ireland the bondmen slave of England. [Cheers.] May the results show and give evidence that the Irishmen of America would assist their brother Irishmen in Europe to obtain that freedom, that independence, that liberty, which is more sacred than all else in this world. [Loud cheers.] And that country which has enslaved and oppressed Ireland, that England which in her professions has always been an angel of light, and in her practices, operations a devil of darkness—that England, that England should tremble at the shouts which the free Irishmen of America utter on this occasion sending forth to a just heaven. [Applause.] The Inaugural Address will now be delivered by the Hon. John Wentworth.

ADDRESS OF MR. WENTWORTH.

Mr. Wentworth commenced by exhibiting a ticket of membership of the American Repeal Association, which showed that he was a member of that organization in 1843, when Mr. Egan was President. He had always been a friend of liberty, not that he cared specially for Ireland, but wished to see her people free with all other. They only asked to be allowed to govern themselves, a request which none but tyrants would refuse. If it was asked what are the abilities of Irishmen, it needs only to refer to Burke, Curran, Grattan, Sheridan and Moore, the last of whom claimed the honor of being first among the poets. When England had exhausted herself in the war with Napoleon, she turned to her Irish Fellow-countrymen. In Canada she had sent a Montgomery to die on the plains of Abraham, and he (Wentworth) was in a war where Protestant England was fighting against Catholic France. All through the wars of America, Irishmen had shown by their deeds themselves a proud name. Andrew Jackson at New Orleans, and Sheridan in Mexico, were but the antecedents to Meagher, Corcoran, and others of the pre-sent day. There was glorious Montgomery, who had resigned his life in a foreign country, but still his country could take her place among the nations of the earth. Without that distinction they were ashamed of their country; they could not speak of Ireland except as the place in which England had held her slaves for centuries. He asked them, however, to remember one thing. Freedom, all over the world, was the great principle, and it was as much to their interest to secure the triumph of freedom in America as on Irish soil; in fact it had been well said, that he who was not true to his adopted country was unfit to work for the freedom of his native soil.

The assembly then dispersed, the united guests proceeding to the Bridewell, to hear Bryan Hall, where a substantial repast was provided.

THE BANQUET.

The feast was presided over by P. T. Sherlock. He was supported on the right by Lieut. Governor Hoffman, Hon. B. F. Adams, and Hon. Isaac Hunch; on the left by Recorder Van Buren, Judge Bradwell, and John Wentworth. Among the Aldermen present were Brown, Brown, Hibnod, Bond, Holden, Shimp, Von Hollen, Kahn, Cullen, Sheridan, Gastfield, Casselman, Schall, Talcott, McDonald, Comisky, Armstrong, Gallup, and Titsworth. Of members of the Board of Education, there were Messrs. Taft and Prindiville. Chief Engineer U. P. Harris was there, and O. J. Hoag represented the Board of Public Works. Several military gentlemen were also present, and the Brotherhood occupied the tables which ranged down the hall flanking the one at the head of the room.

Ample justice having been done to the viands, the Chairman, P. T. Sherlock, announced as the first and only regular toast—"The land we live in."

It was responded to in a very lengthy speech by Lieutenant Governor Hoffman, who reminded them that Ireland was dear to a foreigner as being that of his choice, not a mere accident. It was here that Irishmen must organize and concentrate in order to achieve the independence of their own native land. Ireland had produced many great men; her Washington, Franklin, Jackson, Douglas, Webster, Sullivan, Grant and a host of others, not least among whom were to be ranked their own Colonel Mulligan. Yet these great men were not all that constituted the greatness of America. The one thing which made her great and glorious was the determination of the people of this country. [Enthusiastic cheering.] All men were born free and equal, whether on American, German, Swedish, or Irish soil. It was the assertion and vindication of this glorious principle which had made America great to-day. He cared not for the riches of the land, but he did value the liberty which was here secured for that alone had the people come out from the cities and countries of the old world, cutting loose all their social and religious associations, and come to follow in the Western sky the second star of Bethlehem, the star of Liberty, and have established themselves here in the land of the brave, the home of the free, the land we live in. Ireland, he hoped, would be the brightest star in this; it was true a dark cloud now overshadowed it, but there were times when peace and patriotism could not be seen for years. The duty of every man who was asked to be allowed to govern themselves, was to request what none but tyrants would refuse. If it was asked what are the abilities of Irishmen, it needs only to refer to Burke, Curran, Grattan, Sheridan and Moore, the last of whom claimed the honor of being first among the poets. When England had exhausted herself in the war with Napoleon, she turned to her Irish Fellow-countrymen. In Canada she had sent a Montgomery to die on the plains of Abraham, and he (Wentworth) was in a war where Protestant England was fighting against Catholic France. All through the wars of America, Irishmen had shown by their deeds themselves a proud name. Andrew Jackson at New Orleans, and Sheridan in Mexico, were but the antecedents to Meagher, Corcoran, and others of the pre-sent day. There was glorious Montgomery, who had resigned his life in a foreign country, but still his country could take her place among the nations of the earth. Without that distinction they were ashamed of their country; they could not speak of Ireland except as the place in which England had held her slaves for centuries. He asked them, however, to remember one thing. Freedom, all over the world, was the great principle, and it was as much to their interest to secure the triumph of freedom in America as on Irish soil; in fact it had been well said, that he who was not true to his adopted country was unfit to work for the freedom of his native soil.

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