The Free Press.

BURLINGTON, FRIDAY JUNE 11, 1869.

G. G. BENEDICT, EDITOR.

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REPUBLICAN UNION STATE CONVENTION.

A Republican Union State Convention will be held at RUTLAND on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16th, 1869, at 11 o'clock a. m., to nominate candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Treasurer, to be supported at the State election in September next.

The Republican Union voters of this State will be represented in the Convention by their delegates, to be chosen on the basis of one delegate from each town and an additional delegate for each one hundred and fifty votes cast for the Republican candidate for Governor at the last State election. Delegates will provide themselves with proper credentials, signed by the Secretaries of the respective primary meetings.

G. W. GRANDEY,
C. W. WILLARD,
REDFIELD PROCTOR,
B. D. HARRIS,
ROSWELL FARNHAM,
SAML. E. PINGREE,
G. G. BENEDICT,
W. W. GROUT,
D. R. BAILEY,
Republican State Committee.

REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTION.

The Union Republican Voters of Chittenden County are requested to meet in Convention by their delegates, at the Junction House, at Essex Junction, on Saturday, June 26th, 1869, at 11 o'clock a. m., to nominate candidates for Senators and County Officers for the year ensuing, and to transact any other business deemed proper when met.

In conformity with the rule heretofore adopted the several towns will be entitled to delegates as follows:

Bolton,	4	Milton,	12
Burlington,	27	Richmond,	9
Charlotte,	9	Shelburn,	6
Colchester,	14	South Burlington,	4
Essex,	13	St. George,	2
Hinesburgh,	10	Underhill,	7
Huntington,	9	Williston,	10
Jericho,	12	Westford,	4
Total,			152

The delegates will provide themselves with proper credentials from their several town caucuses.

A. H. CHAMBERLIN,
S. HUNTINGTON,
C. W. WITTERS,
County Committee.

Burlington, May 31st, 1869.

Half Fare to the State Convention.

We are authorized to announce that the usual courtesy of half fare to delegates attending the Republican State Convention at Rutland next week Wednesday, will be extended by the Vt. Central and Rutland Railroads, and we presume by the other roads in the State.

State Convention.

The Annual Convention of the Republicans of Vermont takes place at Rutland on Wednesday next. There is less than a week in which to prepare for it, and town committees that have not already called the caucuses to appoint delegates, should do so without delay. We trust that there will be a full attendance, representing fairly the intelligence, moral worth and political soundness of the Republican masses of our State.

The action of the Convention on some points is already pretty clearly foreshadowed. The indications all point clearly and strongly to the nomination of Gen. Peter T. Washburn for Governor.

The distinct expressions of preference on the part of the Republican press have all been in his favor. Recent advices from Windsor county assure us that he will unquestionably be the choice of a majority of the delegates from that county, and we cannot doubt that he is the choice of a majority of the Republicans of the State. We hope to see him nominated with substantial unanimity in the Convention.

Less has been said about Lieut. Governor though the indications of popular preference have been as clear in that, as in reference to the Governorship. The name of HON. JOHN W. STEWART has been mentioned in all parts of the State, with a universal expression of opinion that if Mr. Stewart would take the nomination the party need look no farther for a candidate for the second place on the ticket. The only doubt in the matter has arisen from the fact that Mr. Stewart, for reasons very honorable to him, has steadily discouraged the use of his name. He does not desire to be a candidate; but we have good reason to believe that when the convention assembles, and he finds how general is the desire that he should take the nomination, he cannot and will not decline it. If he should, there will be no lack of candidates. Chittenden County would, in such event, be glad, for once, of the honor of furnishing the Lieut. Governor, and has a man to present, who, as all must own, would make an excellent presiding officer of the Senate, in Hon. L. B. ENGLESBY. Lamoille County would also like the honor, and has a man she deems eminently fit for the place in Hon. GEO. W. HENDEE. Bennington County would also ask favorable consideration for the well-known name of Hon. A. L. MINER, and there are three or four less prominent names which would be brought forward from other counties. Yet all these counties will heartily agree on Mr. Stewart, if they have the opportunity; and as a measure of harmony in the party, as well as being the selection of a gentleman conceded to be second to none in fitness for the place, we hope and expect to see the nomination tendered unanimously to Mr. Stewart.

There should be no talk, and there is none so far as we hear, of changing State Treasurer. On the whole, we anticipate a harmonious convention, and the nomination of an able and acceptable State ticket.

County Convention.

Chittenden County Republican Convention meets at Essex Junction this year. The chief business of the Convention will be the selection of nominees for Senator, in place of Hon. E. R. Hard, who originally accepted the office considerably to the sacrifice of his private business, and who has held it the customary term of two years; for Assistant Judge, in place of Judge Morse, who has held the office for two years; and for Sheriff, in place of Sheriff Griffin, deceased. We see no indications of strife over either office. Doubtless there will be no difficulty in finding suitable candidates in due season.

The announced intention of the British Peers to reject the Irish Church bill in the House of Lords, forebodes a conflict between the two houses in the English Parliament such as has not taken place since 1832. Then the peers rejected the reform bill, the House of Commons immediately passed a resolution of confidence in the ministry, and of their determination to accept nothing but the bill, and the peers had finally to pass the bill under threat of having their order swamped by the creation of eighty additional peers. The liberals now have a majority in the House of Commons of over one hundred. They and the party they represent, show no signs of any intention to compromise. Mr. Gladstone will dissolve the present Parliament, and call a new one, and the creation of a new batch of liberal peers is proposed, sufficient to give the requisite majority in the House of Lords, when next the bill comes forward.

Railroad Stocks would seem to be not desirable property in New Hampshire, as well as in some other States. Governor Stearns, in his inaugural address last week, asserted that the roads in that State which originally cost $21,500,000, are now valued at $9,500,000. And in addition to the loss of fifty-five per cent. on the first cost, the stockholders have received dividends of less than three and one-half per cent. for a series of years. But even that is better than no dividend at all.

The Council of Censors has closed its first session with very commendable promptness. The important business of its two days session has been the appointment of the usual standing committees, with a special committee to inquire into the expediency of reporting an amendment abolishing the Council of Censors, and providing some more democratic method of amending the Constitution; another to inquire into the expediency of adopting female suffrage; and others in reference to lengthening the term and changing the mode of election of Judges of the Supreme Court; in reference to the constitutionality of the acts for bonding towns in aid of railroad corporations, and in reference to biennial sessions of the legislature, and one or two other subjects more fully set forth in the report of proceedings in another column. We understand the Council to be decidedly of the opinion that it is their duty to give the people a chance to vote upon the question of abolishing the Council, by reporting an amendment of the Constitution to that effect; and that the plan informally agreed upon, is to get the business along at the next session in July, so that it may be completed at another brief session early in October, by the issue of a call for a Constitutional Convention, in time for the Legislature to make due provision for the same. We also understand that a majority of the Council are in favor of reporting an amendment providing for biennial sessions of the Legislature. Beyond this the probable action of the Council cannot be foreshadowed with much certainty. So far the Council has done its work promptly and well.

A correspondent of the St. Albans *Messenger* calls attention to the heavy expense of private litigation to the State. He says: "Cases can be found in every county where the State has been put to an expense of more than two hundred to two thousand dollars, to try a single case. The litigants, of course, pay their lawyers and their witnesses, and the pitiful sum of $7.07 towards paying court and jury fees; while in many, and I might say, most cases, the State has to pay the jury on the trial and the panel in reserve, all amounting to 20 men, besides the judges, officers, stationery, &c., sometimes ten and fifteen days; and quite often, when the matter in controversy is not equal to one tenth of the expense to the State. This is clearly inequitable and oppressive. There can be no justice in compelling the prudent, honest and hard-working people of the State to pay the expense of settling the controversies of the careless, shiftless and contentious portions of the community. It is true that many honorable, prudent men are driven into court to defend their rights, but much less of that class would be drawn into the law were it not that evil disposed persons are thus aided by the State.

"What I would suggest is, that the *entire expense* of all *civil suits* should be paid by the parties. Such was the early judiciary system in this State, and if such was now the law, we should soon see a great falling off of the business of our courts. Let the parties once know that the entire expense of litigation will fall upon the party who shall be decided to be in fault, and parties would be found settling and closing up their controversies, rather than hazarding the fearful expense of trials."

That, doubtless, would be one effect of such a change. And another would probably be that many more would suffer wrong than now do, rather than undertake the risk of obtaining redress at law. It seems to be the rule of civilized society that the non-litigious must support courts for the contentious, the honest men pay for jails for the dishonest, and the thrifty support the shiftless, and we confess that we do not expect to see any great change in these respects in our day. Yet after all, there may be a point worth serious attention in the suggestion made above.

The N. Y. *Commercial* says that because Dr. Mary Walker has chosen to wear a costume which, though somewhat peculiar, she has found too comfortable and convenient to be discarded, she is made the subject of heartless sneers, and a general target on which newspaper correspondents expend their wit. Against this it protests, and denounces the injustice of denying her claims to office from a country which she has, under trying and dangerous circumstances, devotedly served. It continues: "Nor can it be said that this woman has not capacity or virtue, for she has mastered one of the most learned and difficult professions, and is probably the superior in point of intellectual attainments of any half-dozen of the wives of the politicians, correspondents and editors who are daily sneering at her."

But for what reason does Dr. Mary Walker so persistently seek offices at the hands of the government, while she has a profession a tolerable degree of success in which would bring a far larger and surer income than any clerkship she might obtain in Washington? It has been often asserted that were females admitted to the practice of medicine, their services would be sought by those of their own sex in preference to male practitioners; and the success of some women as physicians would seem to make good the claim. Yet here is an instance of a lady who has gained her diploma, practiced in hospitals, and enjoyed unusual opportunities for acquiring a knowledge of her profession, and yet cannot find patients enough to make it worth her while to attend to them. Where we see a person perseveringly applying for some possible $900 clerkship, while she has a profession which ought to bring her an annual income of five times that amount, the suspicion naturally arises that there is something wrong somewhere.

COUNTY CONVENTIONS.—Republican County Conventions have been called as follows:—

Chittenden County.—Delegate convention, at Essex Junction, Saturday, June 26.

Addison County.—Mass convention at Middlebury, June 22.

Washington County.—Mass convention, at Montpelier, Saturday, June 26.

Rutland County.—Delegate convention at Rutland, Wednesday, June 23d.

Windsor County.—Mass convention at Woodstock, June 17th.

THE ST. ALBANS BUCKEYE MOWER.—We took a look through the shops and ware rooms of the St. Albans Foundry Company, a few days since, and saw the "Buckeye" in every stage of manufacture. In view of the fact that the relative merits of several different machines are to be determined by a rigid trial during this month, we do not feel quite at liberty to express any opinion in that direction, but it may not be out of place for us to say that we found everything connected with the manufacture of the Buckeye in a highly commendable condition. The material used and the workmanship are all strictly first class. This company claims to have made some very decided improvements in the machine since it took the first prize at the great trial at Auburn in 1866. It has the merit of being a home institution, which in more than one sense ought to have some weight with purchasers.

PLANT ROOTS.—Carrots, beets, mangolds, parsnips and ruta-bagas may yet be planted. Cabbages, Swede and German turnips may be planted all this month, and English turnips all next month. Cornwall is the banner town in Vermont for root culture and has the largest grand list in proportion to its area of any farming town. These two conditions are intimately related if not inseparable.

THE MILITARY CONTROL IN TEXAS.—*Decision of Attorney General Hoar.*—Attorney General Hoar has submitted a long opinion to the Secretary of War, in which he says he finds no reason in law for the President's withholding his approval from the finding of the military commission in the case of James Weaver, a citizen of Texas, convicted of murder and sentenced to be hung. The question involved was whether a military commission in Texas, in September, 1868, had jurisdiction over a citizen not in the military or naval service. Authority therefore is found by the Attorney General in the statute of March 2, 1867, placing certain rebel States, including Texas, under military control, which act was operative in Texas, because she had not adopted a constitution in conformity with the other provisions of the act; and all acts of Congress are to be presumed to be constitutional unless the contrary plainly appears.

WHITEHALL ITEMS.—Whitney's slaughter house was destroyed by fire last Tuesday night. Loss $1,000. It was the work of an incendiary.

A double wedding took place at the Presbyterian church in Whitehall on Wednesday, the bridegrooms being F. H. Gaylord and H. R. Wait, who led two daughters of T. T. Vaughan to the hymenial altar.

Twenty per cent. has been added to the strength of the new Adirondack mineral spring by tubing.

A Parallel.

History informs us that there was once a great and good man by the name of Washington—George Washington. He performed many meritorious services for his country in what was known as the Revolutionary war. In fact he filled the honorable and elevated position of Commander-in-Chief of the American army. He was deemed honest and capable, and was much respected by his contemporaries. Even to the present day his name is frequently mentioned with gratitude, and, by general consent, he is called "the Father of his Country." There is, perhaps, nothing endearing in this title *per se.* We frequently meet with phrases such as "stern parent," "unnatural parent," and other expressions which indicate that the nature of the parental relation is not always and necessarily pleasant as it ought to be. Yet the honor of paternity to such a promising offspring as the United States of America is not an insignificant one, and on the whole there is no reason to doubt that the title was meant to be one of affectionate respect.

As a further mark of honor the nation elected Washington to the respectable office of President. Like all who have filled that position, "he did not seek the office; it sought him." Some adulatory individuals have actually asserted that he dignified the office, instead of the office dignifying him. Still another honor was once bestowed upon Washington. Some demonstrative and patriotic young ladies of Trenton once waylaid him as he was passing through that place, obstructed his path and nearly smothered the hero himself, with flowers ingeniously twined into wreaths and boquets. The affair has become historic. Nearly every other house in the land is adorned with a picture, more or less valuable in an artistic point of view, representing the scene. Generally speaking, however, the pictures are not such as to commend themselves to a delicate aesthetic taste. The oldest ones in date of manufacture, represent Washington apparently bound to a pink-colored horse. This may indicate genius in the artist, but does not betoken an extensive acquaintance with natural History. But these are trifles. The graceful act of the Trenton dames was the spontaneous offering of beauty to courage and patriotism. Far be it from us to cast ridicule upon the transaction. We allude to it for a different purpose.

There is another American soldier, one Gen. R. E. Lee, whose career is pretty well known. His services, it is true, have not exactly been given to his country for the past few years, and some have even called him a traitor. But, as he was educated at his country's expense, he was, of course, relieved *ipso facto* from all obligation to fight in her defense. He has never been President, which is perhaps somewhat remarkable, in view of the fact that his native State is the "Mother of Presidents." However, Mr. Lee can draw consolation from the reflection that Washington was not chosen to that high office till several years after the close of the war in which he distinguished himself.

Like his great predecessor, General Lee has been making a tour through a portion of the country. He was everywhere the centre of attraction, and, in many cases, an object of quite general homage. He was something of a martyr withal. Prosy old Virginian politicians presented him with protracted "addresses of welcome," and miscellaneous gatherings of women crowded to press his guileless lips. A few malevolent individuals recalled the time when this same Lee passed up through Maryland and Pennsylvania at the head of an army, bringing fire and death to peaceful homes. But the people in general disclaimed any disposition to renew the memory of those days. The Virginia soldier moved like a conquering hero.

Gen. Lee, too, has been made the recipient of a floral offering. Fredericksburg, Va., is the city that has thus distinguished itself. During the General's visit there, he was met one morning, as we are told, "by fifty beautiful little girls, children of the most prominent citizens of the place, who strewed flowers in his path, and he walked the distance on a bed of roses, the volunteer offerings of innocence and loveliness." The dispatch does not inform us whether the "fifty beautiful little girls" were dressed in the national or confederate colors. It does not say whether they sang "Dixie" or "Hail Columbia." It did not indicate whether the "leading citizens" alluded to, support the "new movement" or the old, the Wells or the Walker ticket. We are even left in doubt as to whether this ovation was given to General Lee of the Confederate Army or to President Lee of the Virginia University. The memory of the great friends of education—the Pestalozzis and Horace Manns—is everywhere cherished, and why should the Virginia teacher be overlooked. Though this explanation does credit to the actors in the affair, we believe that it is not the true one. A more reasonable view is that the Virginians *par excellence*, the most "prominent citizens" and their daughters, are beginning to tire of the name of Washington. They are weary of hearing him continually praised, even as the ancient and intelligent Athenian was of hearing Aristides called "The Just." The venerable pictures of Washington at Trenton, which adorned so many noble Virginia mansions, have served their purpose and must give way to something of more recent interest. Such are the vicissitudes of fame. After honoring the memory of the "Father of his Country" we can now begin to celebrate the character and achievements of the "Betrayer of his country." 'Tis a mere difference of one word, and, as Carlyle would say, "we must look behind the word to the man."

Who shall say that Virginia is not reconstructed—shall we longer exclude her from the Union? To be sure while the ladies of Fredericksburg were decorating Gen. Lee with flowers many negroes were starving from being refused the privilege of earning their own bread. To be sure the students of the University of Virginia are reported in the habit of shooting colored men as an innocent diversion. It is true that the influential voice of Gen. Lee is never heard from his academical seclusion in favor of justice and the oppressed. He may never have labored to heal the wounds of war. He has never announced that he had given up the "Lost Cause." But it is well for Virginians to honor him above all the living and dead heroes of the land. It shows clearly where her sympathies are. Her "heart is in the coffin" with the corpse of the rebellion. Until the practice of honoring unpunished rebels—the Lees in Virginia and the Breckinridges of Kentucky—ceases the country will distrust Southern loyalty. The tour of Lee is of interest only as confirming and justifying this distrust.

In an interesting debate on Canada and the British Colonies on this continent, in the British House of Commons on the 2d, reported by cable, Mr. Monsell, the Under Secretary for the Colonial Department, intimated that the policy of the government was to throw the cost of self defence on each colony. Measures to that end had been partially taken, and they would be extended next year. He had no doubt that the arrangement for the cession of the Hudson's Bay Company's territory would receive the ratification of the Canadian Government. The question was not one of purchase only, but also of development, colonization, and civilization, which had hitherto been virtually closed. If the scheme were successful, the Dominion would extend from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. Viscount Bury regarded Canada as the future highway to the Indies and the East. He ridiculed the idea of an incorporation of the British possessions with the United States, and said that by such a course the Colonies had everything to lose and nothing to gain.

Sir Stafford Northcote, thought that the Canadians were better able to decide for themselves what action they would take in the matter than to act on the advice of the government, which would seem at this distance to be one of the most sensible things said in the debate.

Secretary Boutwell's best answer to the New York gold speculators who have been trying to induce him to run the department so as to favor their schemes, is found in his monthly return just made which shows a reduction of the public debt of over thirteen millions in the month of May, and over twenty millions since the first of March. Mr. Boutwell has only to keep on furnishing such monthly statements, and his enemies cannot hurt him, though they do and say their worst.

The new Liquor bill passed the Massachusetts Senate under a suspension of the rules on Friday, the vote in its favor being about two to one. It is substantially the same as the bill once passed by the House, but having been verbally amended must go back to that body for concurrent action. It exempts cider, but not lager beer.

Virginia.

Gen. Canby, commanding the First Military District, has issued an order prescribing the rules which are to govern the registration and forthcoming election in Virginia. The sales of intoxicating liquors and the carrying of deadly weapons on that day are forbidden under the penalty of trial and sentence by Military Commission. The canvass waxes warm and the press of the entire State urges the necessity of a full registration of voters. Upon the subject of voting there is much division of opinion among the conservatives as to whether they should vote against the constitution, or only against those clauses which are to be submitted to a separate vote, and this division of sentiment is all favorable to the Republicans, and it would not be surprising if the result was the adoption of the constitution entire.

Governor Wells is reported as making a splendid canvass as the Radical candidate for Governor, and there is complete unity among his supporters. The colored vote will go almost in a body Republican, notwithstanding the offers of the Democrats to give them offices in exchange for their votes. On the whole the republicans seem to be justified in their confidence that they will carry the State on the 6th of July.

The recent introduction of the Permissive Prohibitory Liquor Bill into the British House of Commons, though it was not carried to a second reading, forms an era in the history of temperance legislation in that country. The bill we understand to be one permitting the authorities to close the gin palaces and retail liquor stores, in any place where a majority of two-thirds of the inhabitants should vote to prohibit it. On the 12th of May Sir Wilfred Lawson moved the second reading of the bill, the first reading having been given it in February last. It was known that the reception which the House should accord the bill on the motion for its second reading would decide its fate for the present, and the event was looked forward to with a great deal of interest by its friends and enemies throughout the country. Temperance men had been making unusual exertions for two or three months previous, in the way of holding public meetings and in circulating petitions, and when the day arrived, Sir Wilfred presented upwards of 600 petitions in favor of the bill. One petition was presented against it from the licensed victuallers of Liverpool. About 400 members were present during the debate, which was opened by Sir Wilfred Lawson in an able and moderate speech. Mr. Bazley, member for Manchester, seconded the motion, and the discussion was participated in by about a dozen members, for and against the measure. At least half of he speakers were in favor of it, and nearly all admitted the alarming extent to which the evil of the liquor traffic had attained, and the pressing necessity for repressive legislation. The Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, the Home Secretary, intimated that there must be some recognition of the right of the people to exercise a local control over the traffic. The debate having continued for five hours, a division was taken and resulted in the refusal of the House to give the bill a second reading by a vote of 193 to 87. Such a result was not unexpected by the temperance men, and they feel that they have, on the whole, good cause for encouragement rather than discouragement. When the bill was introduced in 1864 the vote against it was 297 to [illegible]. The adverse majority is now reduced to a little more than two to one. This indicates rapid progress in temperance sentiment in England, progress, moreover, of an enduring character, for it is founded on the firm convictions of men who are not easily induced to favor new and radical measures. This, continued for five years longer, will give the people of England a bill which will enable them to remove from all who are inclined to drink, the temptation of the open bar; close the gin palaces; and make the traffic in liquor as illegal, disreputable and secret business, as it is wherever prohibitory laws, so called, are in force in this country.

From the Montpelier Journal.

It is pleasant to find ourselves complimented for fidelity to "the old ways in matters of State policy." When we remember that our Constitution, and the system of government, state, county and town, which it provides, constitute the very model which Jefferson describes as the most perfect system; that, after the experience of nearly a century under it, it has been practically good; and moreover when we contrast them with the Constitution and government of other Republican States and find not even one instance of superiority, we think it is worth while to respect the old ways and to be very cautious about straying into new paths. This is conservatism, we confess, but we are ready, if need be, to defend the prudence of conservatism against the rashness of the fast young men of these and other days. Steam and electricity have their proper work, but we are not quite prepared to submit politics to their dominion. We would neither trundle old constitutions out or new ones in by express trains, nor put through amendments by telegraph. It would be unpleasant to go to bed a Republican and awake a Monarchist. So let us make haste slowly.

The Free Press presumes a little too much when it charges us with being unable to see the value of the Council as a mode of instituting amendments. That has been the fault of the editor of the Free Press; and now we venture to hope that the work of the present Council will at least serve to correct that fault. In two days it has designed and put no less than eight amendments to the Constitution into the hopper, with a roving commission to its committees to extend their inquiries in that direction. Here is the list:

1. On private corporations.
2. Abolition of the Council.
3. Increase of the Council from thirteen members to thirty.
4. On mode of amendment to the Constitution.
5. On Woman Suffrage.
6. On the election and term of Judges of the Supreme Court.
7. On the Chancery System.
8. For Biennial Sessions of the Legislature.

A good deal of work for two days. Indeed, will not our friends of the Free Press frankly confess that this Council has steam power of its own sufficient for all practical purposes? Perhaps it is fortunate for the Council that it took a recess so quickly. Another strain might have burst its boiler. Pray do not ever complain that the Council is good for nothing in its office of proposing amendments. We thank the Council for answering that complaint, as well as for its proposed investigations of various important matters. It is magnifying its office.

We believe the Free Press has never complained that the Council was good for nothing in the way of proposing amendments. It was the *Journal* that argued for the Council, on the ground that the Constitution was kept from change by its means. But the various amendments suggested above are not yet recommended by the Council; and did our friend of the *Journal* never hear of such a thing as a Council cutting out in the beginning a good deal more work than it finished? The office has often been much more "magnified" in the outset than in the sequel. But we have nothing to say against the present Council. If it will as its members now propose, give the people a chance to say whether they desire to continue the Council in existence as a part of our State machinery—and will not complicate that question by submitting too many others with it,—it will be all we ask of them.

We yield to no one in our pride in Vermont, and respect for the institutions and character which make her what she is. We are not, however, clear that whatever pertains to Vermont is therefore *perfect*,—least of all a piece of machinery borrowed from Pennsylvania, and engrafted into a system in which it forms an incongruous feature. With this exception Vermont is as purely a democratic Commonwealth, in form and substance, as can be found. But it is not democratic, not in keeping with the spirit of our people and institutions, to change our bottom law—the most important business that can be done in legislation—without giving the voters an opportunity to vote directly on the acceptance or rejection of the changes proposed. This, under the present system, they cannot do. *Thirteen* men now propose the amendments, and a convention of *two hundred and forty* men or less, says whether they shall be parts of the Constitution. Some of the evils, actual and possible, of this arrangement, we shall try to set forth hereafter.

Bishop Bissell, of Vermont, in his address to the late Diocesan convention at Rutland, approved the action of the late General Convention of the Episcopal Church, respecting Divorce, and the consecration and alienation of churches. He said no clergyman of that church could now lawfully marry persons divorced except for the cause of adultery, and then it must be the innocent, and not the guilty, party. And no church could be consecrated unless free from debt; nor encumbered, or alienated, or taken down, without the consent of the Ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese.

As to Divorce he recommended an application to the Legislature to change the State law on the subject, so as to make it conformable to the Scripture Rule. One to every nineteen persons in this State is a divorced party. He regarded frequent divorces as an alarming evil, as sapping the foundation of morality, and demanding the speedy attention of those in authority.

Council of Censors.

WEDNESDAY, June 2.

AFTERNOON.

Mr. Dewey, from the Committee on Rules, made a report, which was adopted, recommending the adoption of general parliamentary rules, and providing for the appointment of the following committees:

A committee of three, to inquire whether the Constitution has been preserved inviolate during the last septenary: to be denominated the committee on the *Powers of the Constitution*.

A committee of three, whose duty it shall be to inquire whether the legislative branch of the government has performed its duties as guardian of the people, and has assumed to itself or exercised other or greater powers than are conferred upon it by the Constitution, and particularly whether the laws have been duly executed; which committee shall be called the *Legislative Committee*.

A committee of three, whose duty it shall be to inquire whether the executive department of the government has performed its duties as guardian of the people, or has assumed or exercised other or greater powers than the Constitution confers upon it; to be called the *Executive Committee*.

A committee of three, whose duty it shall be to inquire whether the public taxes have been justly laid and collected, and in what manner the public money has been expended; to be called the committee on *Taxes and Expenditure*.

Mr. Colburn of Windsor county, introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of changing the mode of amending the Constitution, referring to legislative action for propositions to amend the Constitution, and a reference directly to the people for a final decision, as more appropriate and less expensive than the present system, and more in accordance with republican ideas and democratic equality.

The Chair announced as committee on the above resolutions, Messrs. Colburn, Lane and Powers.

Mr. Rand introduced a resolution on Woman Suffrage, which, after being amended on motion of Mr. Reed, was adopted as follows:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the Constitution of this State as to extend the right of suffrage to all the citizens of this State without regard to sex.

Mr. Dewey introduced the following resolutions, which were read and adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Constitution as to enlarge the term of office of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and to fix their salaries, and also to inquire into the expediency of changing the mode of their election.

Resolved, That the same committee be also instructed to inquire and report as to whether evils and defects exist in the present chancery system of the State, and whether the action of this Council under the provisions of the Constitution may and should be invoked to remove or ameliorate such evils and defects, if found to exist.

The President announced as committee on this resolution, Messrs. Dewey, Belfield and Rand.

Mr. Colburn introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of holding biennial sessions of the Legislature, instead of annual, and of electing officers for two years, leaving to the executive the power of calling extra sessions as it is now.

Mr. Lane introduced the following resolution, which, on his own motion, was ordered to lie:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire and report upon the expediency of so amending the Constitution that corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special enactment.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, June 3, 1869.

FORENOON.

The Council was called to order at 10 a. m. by the President. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Lord.

The President announced the following standing committees:

On the Powers of the Constitution.—Messrs. Dewey, Rand and Cleaveland.

Legislative Committee.—Messrs. Belfield, French and Harmon.

Executive Committee.—Messrs. Reed, Colburn and Powers.

On Taxes and Expenditures.—Messrs. Rice, Hollister and Lane.

The President also announced the following special committees:

On the resolution introduced by Mr. Colburn, providing for Biennial Sessions of the Legislature, (Mr. Colburn being excused from the chairmanship on his own request), Messrs. Rand, Colburn and Harmon.

On the resolution introduced by Mr. Rand, (as amended on motion of Mr. Reed), relating to Woman Suffrage, Messrs. Rand, Reed and Powers.

Mr. Dewey introduced a resolution, which, as amended, after discussion by Messrs. Harmon, Reed, Powers, Dewey, Cleaveland and Lane, was adopted as follows:

Resolved, That when this Council shall close its present session, it shall adjourn to meet, and hold its second session, at the Capitol in Montpelier, on the 27th of July next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

Mr. Powers introduced the following resolution; which was read, and, after amendment, adopted:

Resolved, That the committee on the Powers of the Constitution be instructed to make inquiry whether Sec. 19 of Part 2d of the Constitution has been violated by any member of the Legislature during the last septenary, and that such committee have leave to sit at any time during the term of office of this Council, and have power to send for persons, papers and records.

The resolution of Mr. Lane, in relation to the prohibition of special enactments of the Legislature incorporating private companies, was taken up. Mr. Lane moved to amend the resolution, and on motion of Mr. Dewey, the resolution and amendment were laid on the table.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Lane, yesterday, in relation to the incorporation of private corporations by the legislature, was called up and amended so as to read as follows:

Resolved, That a committee consisting of three members be appointed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Constitution as to prohibit the creation of private corporations by special enactments, and that said committee have leave to report such amendment or addition to the Constitution in respect thereto as they may deem to be necessary.

And the resolution, so amended, was passed.

The Chair announced as the special committee so raised, Messrs. Lane, Hollister and French.

Mr. Rand introduced the following amended resolution:

Resolved, That the legislative committee be instructed to enquire whether the provisions of the 94th chapter of the General Statutes, relating to the traffic in intoxicating drinks, have been duly enforced, and if it be found that said provisions have not been so enforced, that said committee report as to the cause of such failure.

And the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Lane introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorized to make up and certify the debentures of the Council and the officers and attendants employed by them during their present session.

Mr. Powers introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the select committee appointed to consider the expediency of abolishing the Council of Censors be instructed to consider the expediency of increasing the number of the Council to thirty, to be apportioned to the different counties in the same manner as Senators are.

Mr. Cleaveland introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary procure the printing of one hundred and fifty copies of the Journal of this Council at its present session, and that he forward by mail one copy thereof to the publishers of each daily and weekly newspaper in the State, and five copies to each member of this Council.

Mr. Dewey introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the State be requested to furnish this Council at the commencement of its adjourned session a statement of balances due, if any, from officers who, by virtue of their office, are required to account to him for balances in their hands belonging to the State, and the time when such balances accrued.

Mr. Colburn introduced a resolution, which after amendment, was as follows:

Resolved, That the legislative committee be instructed to inquire whether the laws of this State regulating the rate of interest have been disregarded and violated, and that for this purpose they have power to send for persons and papers, and that the same committee report the causes of such violations, if proved to have existed, and whether it be within the province of the powers of this Council to provide a remedy.

And the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Reed introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That each committee of this Council to which has been referred any proposed amendment of the Constitution or subject of consideration, (notwithstanding the instructions to said committee may be specific), are hereby requested and authorized to report such amendment to the Constitution or other proceeding pertaining to the general subject committed to it, as any committee shall deem the public interests require.

Mr. Dewey introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the committee on the Powers of the Constitution be instructed to inquire whether the legislative branch of the government, in the enactment of certain statutes enabling towns to grant aid to railroad corporations, has assumed to itself and exercised greater powers than it is entitled to by the Constitution.

Mr. Cleaveland introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That at the close of the session of this Council, to-morrow morning, the Council adjourn to meet on the 27th day of July next, as heretofore ordered.

Mr. Lane introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the Auditor of Accounts be requested to furnish this Council, at its adjourned session, a statement of balances due the State, if any, from the Judges of Probate and County Clerks in the several counties, and the years in which such balances accrued, and the names of such delinquent officers.

On motion of Mr. Harmon, adjourned.

Vermont Homœopathic Medical Association.

The Vermont Homœopathic Medical Association held its fifteenth annual session at the Lake House in this city, June 1st, 1869, C. B. Currier, M. D., presiding.

The following names were presented for membership, and were duly elected:

Ebenezer J. Foster, M. D., Montpelier.
G. J. Crowly, M. D., Shrewsbury.
C. Woodhouse, M. D., Rutland.
James Haylett, M. D., Moretown.

Interesting and instructive papers were read by Drs. Jones and Brigham, also a paper from Dr. Whittier, delegate from the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society.

The balance of the forenoon was occupied in discussing the papers and the reports of committees.

In the afternoon the reports of the committees were disposed of, and a half hour occupied in an informal discussion and conversation on medical topics.

The Chair appointed as committee on nominations of officers for the ensuing year, Drs. Cotton, A. V. Marshall, and T. Bigelow, who reported the following names, which were duly elected:

C. B. Currier, M. D., Middlebury, President.
J. H. Jones, M. D., Bradford, Vice President.
H. M. Hunter, M. D., St. Johnsbury, Secretary and Treasurer.
Geo. Colton, M. D., Corresponding Secretary.

The following resolutions were introduced and unanimously passed:

Resolved, That the Vermont Hom. Med. Society tender its thanks to the Vermont Central and Sullivan, and the Connecticut and Passumpsic River Railroads for the favor of return tickets over those roads.

Resolved, That the Society tender its thanks to the Secretary for obtaining return tickets for the members attending the Association.

Resolved, That when we adjourn, it be to meet in Montpelier in June, 1870.

The President being obliged to return home on an early train, Vice President, J. H. Jones occupied the chair during the remainder of the session, and filled up the various committees and arranged the order of business for the ensuing year.

Dr. G. N. Brigham of Montpelier, will deliver an address before the Society at its next meeting.

Dr. C. Woodhouse of Rutland, will also read a paper on chronic diseases.

The meeting was well attended and the discussions spirited and harmonious. The Society now numbers about 70 members, and is in a flourishing condition, is free from debt, with $9.50 in the treasury and about $45.00 due from members.

Vermont Medical Society.

The Vermont Medical Society held its semi-annual session this year at Brandon. The meeting was not largely attended, but prominent physicians of the state were present. The President being absent, Dr. E. D. Warner of New Haven, was chosen President pro tem., and presided with dignity and ability.

Dr. Joseph Bates of Lebanon was present as a delegate for the Medical Society of New York.

Dr. S. W. Butler, editor of those excellent periodicals, the Medical and Surgical Reporter, and Half-Yearly Compendium of Medical Science, of Philadelphia, was also present. Dr's. F. W. Page of Brandon, L. H. Hemenway, of Manchester, E. P. Squires, of Shoreham, and T. J. Ketcham of Pittsford, were elected members of the Society.

The time was mainly spent in discussing upon cases presented by different members of the Society. Dr. Cushman of Orwell presented written details of several cases of disease of the ileo-cæcal region, occurring under his observation.

Dr. F. W. Page of Brandon read a paper giving a highly interesting account of a case of non malignant abscess of the brain.

Dr. Butler of Essex read a paper on the statistics of fever and consumption in the State. These papers were freely discussed, and referred to the Committee of Publication.

A committee of one from each county in the State, consisting of Drs. Eddy, Halton, Richmond, Upham, Ballard, Carey, Fassett, Welch, Mamuler, Woodward, J. B. Morgan, E. N. S. Morgan, and Hyde, was appointed to investigate the history, causes, soil and soil moisture and topography of locality where occurring, communicability, &c., of consumption, to report at some future meeting of the Society.

The society were invited to partake of the hospitalities of Dr. A. T. Woodward during the evening of Wednesday and enjoyed the social gathering greatly, discussing the good things set before them with great zest.

Members of the Society visited the graded school under the charge of J. S. Cilley, which is a model school and well appointed in every respect. The order and discipline of the school is excellent, the arrangement of the buildings and the neatness which pervades every department is admirable.

Episcopal Diocesan Convention

On Wednesday evening a missionary meeting was held, in which much interest was manifested. The Bishop stated the object of the meeting and with a few pleasant words introduced each speaker.

Addresses were made by Rev. Messrs. Flanders of Chester, Smith of Arlington, Johnson of Bennington, Atwill of Burlington and Chandler of the Diocese of New York.

THURSDAY, June 3d.

The Convention met at 9 a. m. After morning prayer, in which a number of the clergy took part, the Bishop took the chair, and the roll being called all the clergy were found present and with one or two exceptions all the lay delegates.

Two new Parishes, St. John's, Ludlow, and Trinity, Milton, were admitted into union with the Convention.

The report of the Trustees of the Vermont Episcopal Institute was then read; and stated that the Theological department has now three students; the school, under the efficient management of Rev. T. A. Hopkins, being in a flourishing condition.

The report of the Missionary Board being read by Rev. Gemont Graves showed that thirteen Parishes had been aided during the year, at an expense of $1,445.55.

Rev. J. Milton Peck of Rutland was chosen to preach the Missionary sermon before the next convention, Rev. Mr. Pitman of Swanton being his substitute.

Rev. Mr. Flanders of Chester was chosen to preach the next annual Convention sermon, Rev. E. R. Atwill of Burlington being his substitute. The standing committee was elected as follows:

Rev. Dr. Hicks, Rev. Dr. Swett, Rev. Mr. Fairbanks, Hon. B. Richardson, Hon. H. Canfield, Mr. T. H. Canfield.

The Bishop in his address advised action to be taken regarding the marriage of persons divorced for other than the Scriptural reason, viz: adultery. He strongly deprecated the frequent changes which take place among the clergy of the Diocese; the average continuance of the Pastoral connection in each Parish being only about three years. He reported the Diocese in zeal, and the number of confirmations more flourishing than ever before.

The next convention is appointed to meet at Bellows Falls. After some routine business, and the usual religious services at 1 P. M. the Convention adjourned.

Across the Lake.

The work of setting the poles for a telegraph line from Elizabethtown to Westport commenced on Friday the 21st. The company was organized on the 18th.

Capt. H. S. Ransom was installed as Postmaster at Plattsburgh on Monday last. He has secured the services of H. C. Sanborn as his principal assistant.

Joseph Crapear, a man about sixty-five years old, committed suicide by hanging, at Stockholm Depot, Thursday night. The act was committed in the chamber over his wood-shed. We hear no cause assigned for the act.

H. W. Stetson, of Plattsburgh, has been appointed to fill the vacancy at Dannemora, occasioned by the recent removal of the clerk in the Iron office for "incompetency."

On Thursday morning, May 27th, the store and contents of Milote Baker, at Saranac Lake, were destroyed by fire. The value of the goods was about $18,000, with an insurance probably of one-half the amount.

POSTMASTERS.—The following additional Postmasters have been appointed for Vermont:

Newport—Jasper C. Barker, vice C. R. Clough, resigned; Wardsborough—William P. Gleason, vice J. P. Reed, resigned; Brownington—Chas. Wheeler, vice W. B. Moody, resigned.

EDITORS' AND PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATIONS.—The annual meeting of the Editors' and Publishers' Association, which was appointed to be held at Brattleboro, on the 17th of June, will probably be postponed until early in July, on account of the Republican State Convention being held on the 16th and the Democratic State Convention on the 17th. The great Peace Jubilee in Boston also takes place the same week, all of which gatherings will occupy the attention of most if not all who are members of the Association.

ST. ALBANS MARKET.—In the St. Albans market on Tuesday, transactions in butter were quite lively, though at reduced prices. The amount shipped was 971 tubs, which brought from 29 to 33 cents per pound, though the latter figures were obtained only for a few extra choice lots. The shipment of cheese was 44 boxes and the price paid from 19 to 21 cents per pound.

Masonic.

The annual conclave of Knights Templar of the State of Vermont, which met in this city Tuesday was unusually well attended. It was opened with Knightly ceremonies according to the established tactics of the order, as laid down by Sir Knight Orrin Welch of New York. The address of R. E Russell S. Taft, Commander, was a brief yet succinct review of the condition of the order, and embraced a feeling tribute to the dead of the fraternity, who embrace two Past Grand Commanders, Gamaliel Washburn and Samuel S. Butler, and Grand Senior Warden, Wm. K. Taft. The number of Commanderies in the State is six, located as follows: Middlebury, Burlington, Swanton, Windsor, Rutland, and St. Johnsbury, with a membership of 362. The condition of the order is more flourishing than ever before reported in this State. The Grand Commandery voted to accept the invitation of Winooski Lodge, of Waterbury, to participate in the celebration of St. John's day, upon the 26th inst.; and also accepted an invitation from Washington Lodge to join in the excursion upon Lake Champlain this afternoon.

A committee consisting of Sir Knights George M. Hall of Swanton, Levi G. Kingsley of Rutland, and Edward A. Jewett of Burlington, were appointed to act in conjunction with a committee from the other Grand Masonic Bodies, in relation to the erection of a Masonic Temple in this city.

Resolutions of thanks were adopted to the Railroads, and Burlington Commandery, for courtesies extended during the annual conclave.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

R. E. Russell S. Taft, Burlington, Grand Commander.
V. E. Squire Marcy, Hartland, Deputy Grand Commander.
E. Milton K. Paine, Windsor, Grand Generalissimo.
E. Edward A. Jewett, Burlington, Grand Captain General.
E. Rev. T. P. Stuart, South Burlington, Grand Prelate.
E. Joseph L. Perkins, St. Johnsbury, Grand Senior Warden.
E. Moses H. Smith, Rutland, Grand Junior Warden.
E. Samuel S. Brown, Burlington, Grand Treasurer.
E. John B. Hollenbeck, Burlington, Grand Recorder.
E. William Brinsmaid, Burlington, Grand Standard Bearer.
E. Levi G. Kingsley, Rutland, Grand Sword Bearer.
E. John Bacon 2d, St. Johnsbury, Grand Warden.
E. Homer C. Jackman, Swanton, Grand Captain of the Guard.
E. John B. Copeland, Middlebury, Grand Sentinel.
E. Ural Peirson, South Burlington, Grand Commissary.

The St. Albans Fire.

From the St. Albans *Transcript* of last evening we learn more complete particulars of the destructive fire in that place on Sunday morning. The amount of property destroyed is fully $50,000, and will probably overreach these figures.

About 2:30 a. m. the night watchman at the foundry, noticing a bright light on Main street, concluded a fire was in progress and sounded the alarm. Flames were found to be issuing in great volume from the millinery shop of Miss C. F. Appleton, in the second story of that part of Union Block owned by S. C. Noble. Those on the ground first say that the second story was completely on fire, and that the fire at that time must have been in progress for a considerable period. It rapidly communicated to all parts of Union Block, which was soon enveloped in flames. Huntington's store, on the north, it is probable, would have resisted the flames, had not the wall of Mr. Noble's store fell upon it, crushing it in. Mr. Huntington's store is little less than a total loss. It was occupied by E. H. Huntington as a jewelry store. A goodly portion of Mr. H.'s goods, except the most valuable, which were locked in a fire-proof safe, were removed, but the damage done was great. Mr. C. Huntington's loss is $5,000, insured in the Vermont Mutual for $3,000; Mr. E. Huntington's loss is $2,000, insured in the Vermont Mutual for $1,500.

Directly over Mr. Huntington's store was the County Clerk's office. The most important papers belonging to the office were in the safe and saved.

The first store in the north part of Union Block was occupied by Mr. J. F. McGowan, as a hardware store, connected with which was a plating shop. Mr. McGowan had quite a large stock of goods on hand, and is a loser to a considerable amount. Loss, $16,000; insured for $11,000.

Miss F. C. Appleton's loss is $2,000; insured for $2,000.

Messrs. S. S. & J. A. Bedard, who occupied the remaining store in Union Block, saved most of their property.

In addition to those already named, the following had quarters in Union Block: Messrs. Bailey, Davis & Adams' law office; Champlain Chapter; Franklin Lodge No. 4; Englesby Lodge No. 84; St. Albans Brigade Band; Assistant Assessor's office. Messrs. Bailey, Davis & Adams sustain a heavy loss by the burning of all their books and papers. Mr Bailey loses a law library valued at $1,200, which was insured in the Home, of New Haven. The Assessor's books and papers were consumed.

The several Masonic fraternities named lose property to the value of $2,500, insured for $2,300.

With the exception of one or three, the St. Albans Brigade band lose all their valuable instruments and music, amounting to the sum of $1,000 on which there was no insurance. Mr. Kinsley, the leader of the band, is a personal loser to the extent of at least $200.

All the books and papers belonging to St. John the Baptist Society were burned. Mr. Noble and the estate of the late A. W. Barton, who owned half of the block, lose $12,000; fully insured.

George W. McGowan's loss will reach $1,300. He was insured in the Vermont Mutual for $700.

D. M. Walker, who occupied the first floor of the building as a store and tin shop, lost a portion of his goods; insured.

W. S Norwich, gas-fitter, occupied a room over Mr. Walker, and was a loser to the amount of $700, which is covered by insurance.

The fire without doubt originated in Miss Appleton's Millinery Shop, as all the circumstances go to prove. The manner of its origin, however, will probably forever remain a mystery.

The burnt district is the same as was burned over two years ago last winter, and once previously.

We have been furnished for publication the losses at the St. Albans fire, and amount of insurance. It is as follows:

Dewey & Noble's Union Block. Loss $12,000. Insured in the Niagara Ins. Co. of New York, for $6,000, and in the North American Co. of New York, for $3,000. Total insurance, $9,000.

J. F. McGowan, hardware stock. Loss $16,000. Insured in the Home of New York, for $4,000; in the Hanover of New York, for $2,000; in the Niagara of New York, for $2,000; in the Vt. Mutual for $3,000, and in the Springfield Fire and Marine for $600. Total insurance, $11,600.

S. S. & J. A. Bedard, harnesses, trunks, &c. Loss $600. Insured in the Springfield F. & M. for $2,000, in the National of Boston, for $1500, and in the Ins. Co. of N. A. of Penn., $1,000. Total Insurance, $4,500.

Huntington's Building. Loss $10,000. Insured in the Vt. Mutual for $5,500. Huntington, on stock of $12,000, mostly saved, had an insurance of $1,500.

Wheeler's Block. Damage $500. Insured in Springfield F. & M., for $2,000, in the National of Boston, for $2,500. Total Insurance $4,500.

Miss Appleton, millinery goods. Loss $2,000. Insured in Hartford Ins. Co., for $2,000.

Wooden building, south of Union Block. Loss $2,000. No insurance.

Plumbing stock of McGowan, insured in Germania Co. of New York, for $300.

Turner's stock, insured in Home of New Haven, for $1,500.

Masonic Lodges in Union Block. Loss $3,000. Insured in Albany City, for $2,000; in Hanover of New York, for $300. Total insurance, $2,300.

St. Albans Band. Loss, $1,200. No insurance.

Total losses, $47,300; total insurance, $40,700.

It seems that the reduction of the public debt last month was greater than it was set at in the published statements. There was paid during the month of May interest to the amount of $2,197,197.50, which was due and payable before the 1st of March, and which had never been reported as part of the public debt. Thus the debt was, in fact, reduced more than fifteen and a half millions of dollars in May, and more than $24,000,000 since March 1st. It will be seen that the amount of unredeemed coupons payable May 1, has been added to the amount of the debt in the last statement.

PATENTS.—Among the patents issued for the week ending June 1st, and bearing that date, were the following to Vermonters:

H. T. Cushman, North Bennington, composition paper polisher.

R. N. Allen, Pittsfield, water meter.

Luke W. Taylor, Weathersfield, automaton hoop.

Hiram Kimball, of Randolph, low water indicator for boilers.

As was to be expected, the woman suffrage question was defeated in the Massachusetts Senate on Thursday, by a vote of 9 yeas to 22 nays. There is a considerable grumbling among the friends of the measure, because the matter was not reported in the House, where they believe a stronger relative vote could have been shown for it.

GENERAL NEWS.

Texas farmers are cutting their wheat.

New York lost $547,800 by fires last month.

There is another corner in corn in Chicago.

A temperance revival is in progress in Indiana.

The Texas grape crop promises to be the largest for many years.

Newark, N. J., has voted in favor of running the horse cars on Sunday.

A new fire map of the City of New York, for the use of the Fire Department, has been printed.

Two hundred girls answered an advertisement in the Chicago papers by the manager who is to exhibit forty thieves.

The Empress Eugenie has bought the tree near Cairo under which the Holy Family rested during the flight into Egypt.

They sell luscious strawberries in Illinois at two cents a quart, and say it is the most profitable crop they can raise at that.

An Indiana genius has let his little finger nail grow to an unusual length, and has had it made into a pen.

A French critic says that the music in Wagner's "Rienzi" is so difficult that it leaves the lips of the horn players bloody.

The London *Star* is not Mr. Bright's organ, as often reported. He formerly owned a small share in it but sold out long ago. The paper, however, represents the school of politics of which Mr. Bright is the head.

The Castle Garden Labor Exchange of New York found employment for 1,800 persons in the last fortnight of May. The number of applicants was 1,986.

A match for the championship of boot blacks in Chicago broke up in a row, caused by a "foul" on the part of one of the contestants, who spit on the boots instead of in the blacking-box.

A San Francisco truckman resented a violation of etiquette in the conduct of a friend who came to his house uninvited, by whipping his eyes out.

Rust has appeared in the wheat in the vicinity of Richmond, Virginia, and the crop will probably be reduced one-half in consequence.

The London *Times* estimated the amount of United States bonds held in England at £160,000,000; and now a correspondent of the New York *World* thinks that the whole amount held in Europe is £211,000,000, or some $1,300,000,000 in our greenback currency.

Rev. E. L. Rexford, Universalist of Cincinnati, O., preached, Sunday, against the practice of decorating the soldiers graves. He would have the money and labor expended in substantial aid for the soldiers widows and orphans.

The public workmen of Madrid, says the New York *Tribune*, in digging for a place to plant a column to Liberty, unearthed the bones of thousands of victims of the Inquisition. Unfortunately for the *Tribune*, the bones unearthed prove to be those of horses. The place had been an equine cemetery.

The Continental hotel at Long Branch, N. J., which cost $250,000, was sold at auction, last week, for $145,000. The house will be immediately opened for summer business.

Last week there was a stampede of nearly fifteen hundred cattle near Manteno, Illinois. The drivers were trampled upon and one was badly hurt. Nine of the cattle were killed and others seriously wounded. The drove was very much scattered, but has been mostly collected again.

Publisher Carleton, proprietor of the Worth House at New York, has acceded to the demand of his waiters for an increase of pay, but insists that they must appear in the dining room wearing dress coats, white cravats and white gloves.

Work is going on rapidly in preparing the material for the great bridge across the Mississippi at St. Louis. Owing to the high state of the water, nothing can at present be done in the construction of the piers and abutments, but work will be resumed about the middle of August.

Mr. Sumner is not only assailed by John Bull, but by Bulls generally, his speech having made the fortune of "Bears" on all the stock markets of Europe, not excepting Galata, in Turkey, where the Turkish consols fell 2 per cent. on the publication of his speech.

John N. Maffit, commander of the late rebel pirate Florida, has begun legal proceedings at St. Paul, Minn., to recover $10,000 worth of property confiscated by the United States marshal for about $2,000. Maffit is living at Wilmington, N. C., in reduced circumstances.

The conductors of the Erie (Pa.) *Republican*, recently discharged its Union printers and filled their places with "rats." Thereupon the members of the Typographical Society published the usual circular, denouncing the editors as unfair employers, and warning members of the Union from working in the *Republican* office. The editors immediately instituted a libel suit against the Printers' Union.

An impecunious Hoosier, who has been hunting office in Washington since the day of the inauguration, called on the president on Monday, and related to him the story of his sufferings, and coolly asked his excellency for a free pass on the railroad from Washington to Chicago. The president turned him over to Gen. Dent, and Dent turned him out.

The ghost which has been making such a sensation in one of the Washington hotels has at last been exorcised by throwing some water from the river Jordan upon him. The water was brought from the Holy Land years ago, and was owned by a prominent government official, who himself exorcised the spirit.

Indiana has a judge that ought to move to New York right off. At Greensburg, a lawyer named Ewing, in arguing a case before Judge Bonner, used language that was distasteful to the judge, whereupon the latter assaulted the former, inflicting dangerous if not fatal injuries. The judge was arrested, and is now in jail awaiting the result of Ewing's injuries.

The Mauch Chunk *Gazette* thus gives the effect of the miners' strike on transportation at that single point: "About 1200 boats on the Lehigh canal have stopped running, by which 2000 men are thrown out of employment. The Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad has now but one coal train running. On Wednesday twenty-nine coal trains were discontinued, throwing out 174 men, or six to each train. All the regular coal trains on the Lehigh Valley Railroad have been discontinued."

A countryman exposed his watch on the corner of a street in New Haven on Wednesday, when a bystander offered to bet $5 that it was not gold. Countryman accepted the bet, and it was taken to a jeweller's and pronounced a gold one. The stranger handed the countryman the money, saying, "you win: here's your money and watch," and then left. After he had disappeared the countryman found himself in possession of a galvanized watch instead of his gold one.

A living worth £708 per annum was recently put up at auction in England, but did not fetch the reserve price, notwithstanding there was in the neighborhood, the auctioneer stated, good society, good hunting, and allowing £100 a year to a curate to do the dirty, disagreeable work, such as attending to the sick and dying, there would remain a net profit of about £600 a year for the rector. The outside sum offered for the privilege of attending to the eternal salvation of the inhabitants of the parish in question was only £4,600.

The story of the burning of Briggs' livery stable in New York is a strange one, and not altogether creditable to human nature. It appears that during the time when the person who set fire to it was arranging the price he was to get for the job he coolly talked the matter over to his creditors, promising to pay his debts out of the proceeds, and the creditors in turn talked it over with others, and finally did not get their money.

Heavy rains have caused turbulent floods in the White and Wabash rivers of Indiana. The factories, mills and dwellings on their banks are flooded, and in many places the White river's overflow has made the country a vast lake. Immense damage has been done to the crops, fencing has been swept away, and live stock have been drowned.

At a meeting of the Working Women's Association of New York, last week, Mrs. Kirk, a delegate to the recent Labor Reform Convention in Boston, reported that the meetings were very largely attended, but that instead of discussing questions relating to labor, they spoke on spiritualism, free love, socialism, women suffrage, and every other known or supposed reform, but very little about labor reform.

A San Francisco paper remarks that the wheat crop is exhausting the soil of California, and the Chicago *Times* notes the fact that the yield of the grain-growing districts of Illinois, and of Iowa, Missouri, and Minnesota, is perceptibly less than it was a few years ago. This result occurs wholly from the wholesale exhaustion to which the lands have been submitted.

The famous Israel Putnam adventure was paralleled in Irving, Ks., recently. James Cooley's f lks were hunting depredating wolves; and running one to earth, Cooley's little son, descended into the den, his father holding him by the heels, caught the wolf by the hind feet, and both were drawn out together. But as modern meddlers have declared the Putnam story a fable, we don't expect any belief in this.

The authorities of the Central Pacific Railroad announce that no *pro rata* passenger tickets, nor coupons issued by other railroads will be received by that road, and passenger fares from Ogden City to Sacramento will be ten cents per mile in gold, or about *fourteen cents per mile* in currency. When we consider that this railroad has been built wholly at the public expense, and that in its construction the stockholders and managers have been enriched at the cost of the people, the outrageousness of this exterminate policy becomes more conspicuous.

A correspondent of the *Cincinnati Gazette* accounts for the recent explosion of the gasholder in that city by saying that it is customary, after a gas holder is filled to a certain extent, to introduce chemicals for the purpose of increasing the bulk of the gas, without adding to its illuminating properties. This operation, he thinks, was overdone, and hence the explosion.

When a train of cars, on which there was a hive of bees, stopped at Princeton, Canada, one day last week, it was discovered that the wire gauze placed over the entrance to the hive to allow the bees air, and at the same time to prevent their escaping, had been displaced. The bees had made the discovery, and began to swarm about the ears of the officials. A dozen or more passengers ran to the spot to learn the excitement, got their eyes stung as the price of their curiosity. The train started; and the refractory little creatures belonging to the hive, were observed on the wing a few rods behind the trains doing their best to keep up, generally coming in as the train stopped at different stations in time to sting the brakemen.

BURLINGTON.

Reported for the Free Press.

Meteorological Record.

Lat. 44° 27', Long 73° 10'; Elevation above tide water 387 feet; above Lake Champlain 277 feet.

JUNE—FIRST WEEK—1869.

DAY.	THERMOMETER.			BAROM.	WINDS.		
	7A.M.	2P.M.	9P.M.	(mean)	7A.M.	2P.M.	9P.M.
1	68	75	65	29.57	S	W	SW
2	62	73	63	29.55	SW	SW	SW
3	62	76	69	29.71	S	S	S
4	63	78	72	29.54	SW	SW	SW
5	60	73	51	29.35	SW	SW	NW
6	50	53	47	29.75	NW	NW	NW
7	45	56	50	29.93	NW	NW	NW

Average temperature, 63°.47.
Barometer—mean height, 29.633 inches.
Fall of water, .30 inch.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE CUSTOM HOUSE.—We have recently had an opportunity to examine the plans for the additions to the Custom House building in this city, which have been finally decided upon by the Government, and can say, in advance, that the enlargement proposed will greatly contribute to the good appearance as well as to the convenience of the building. For some time past the constant increase of business at this port has suggested to the officers of the Government the necessity of enlarging their quarters; and it has been deemed desirable to provide sufficient room for the use of the officers of the Internal Revenue Department, who have hitherto been compelled to secure their offices here and there as best they could. To obviate these difficulties the Government engineers have decided to add another story to the present building, by surmounting it with a Mansard or French roof. The story thus formed will be eleven feet high in the clear and will be lighted by two windows on each side, the centre ones of which on the east and west sides will be some feet higher than the rest and handsomely ornamented with scroll work. All these windows will have panelled pilasters and arched pediment caps. A ventilator will rise from the centre of the roof while a heavy dentil cornice will form a tasteful connection between the old and new portions. The new story will be divided into six good sized rooms. Those on the west side are intended for the use of the clerk of the United States Court and the Collector of Internal Revenue of the 3d District, and on the east side there will be a suite of offices for the Assessor, and a large store room.

The cost of the enlargement will be in the vicinity of $15,000.

Mr. Rodney Roby, architect, of the well known firm of H. Roby & Brothers, has been appointed by the Treasury Department Superintendent of the work, which is a sufficient guaranty for the energy and faithfulness with which the plans of the Department will be carried out. He is at present preparing working details of the plans and procuring the requisite materials for the construction, and the work will be completed at as early a day as is possible.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.—The following transfers of real estate have been recorded during the past week:

Wm. H. Hubbard has sold to Peter Kelly his homestead on Shelburn street.

Alonzo W. Allen to Caroline Guyette, lot on Pearl street, for $200.

John Tebo to Lawrence Barnes, premises lying on the Lake shore, south of the Basin, for $3,000. These premises are a valuable acquisition to the premises of Mr. Barnes at that point.

H. N. Ballard has sold to Mrs. E. Moses a lot of land opposite the farm house of Hon. L. B. Englesby on Shelburn street, and Mrs. Moses has re-sold the property to Daniel D. Howard.

F. J. Hendee to James A. Shedd, about [illegible] acres of land situated partly in this city and partly in South Burlington, for about $750.

The many patrons of the steamer "United States" will be gratified to learn that she has taken her regular place in the line for the season. There is now a day boat each way. The "States" leaves Burlington at 3.30 p. m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and at 2.45 a. m. Saturdays going South; and returning, leaves Burlington for Plattsburgh at 1.00 p. m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Capt. Rabbitt is a popular and capable officer and our friend J. N. Hills, who presides at the clerk's office is too well known in this city to need any recommendation from us. The success of Mr. J. B. Brooks, the steward of the "States" in ministering to the wants of the inner man is something to which we can give our personal testimony. In short to all who may be disposed to enjoy a trip on our beautiful Lake we can say "Take the States."

CHITTENDEN COUNTY.

Teachers' Association.

The twenty-third semi-annual meeting of the Chittenden County Teachers' Association will be held at the Baptist Corners in Charlotte, on June 25th and 26th, 1869.

A full programme of the usual interest, may be expected. Means of conveyance from the depot will be provided for those who come by the cars on the first morning, and for their return the last afternoon. Such as desire such conveyance, should write to Dr W. H. H. Varney, Superintendent of schools, Charlotte.

ABEL E. LEAVENWORTH,
President.

New Haven, Vt., June 2d, 1869.

PERSONAL.—Mrs. Maria Pearson, widow of Hiram Pearson, formerly of Shelburn, died in Rockford, Ill., last month.

CHEESE.—Last Tuesday the West Milton cheese factory sold 4300 pounds of new cheese to Gardner, Murphy & Co., of Boston for [illegible] per pound. This is estimated to be as good as [illegible] per pound for butter.

RICHMOND MARKET.—There was sold and shipped from the Richmond market last Monday 200 tubs of butter, at prices ranging from [illegible] 22 cents per pound. Also 100 boxes of cheese which brought from 17 to 20 cents per pound.

HINESBURGH.—The amount of milk brought to the Hinesburgh cheese factory, June 7th, was 11,120 lbs. One hundred cheeses were sold last week for twenty cents per pound. The weight of the 100 was about three tons.

Ruth L. Nash, a little girl nine years old and daughter of Mr. A. Nash of Hinesburgh, has collected and strung during the past year [illegible] buttons. The string measures fifteen feet, and contains no two buttons of the same kind. She has been offered $10 for the collection, but says she should refuse $25.

A GOOD HAUL.—On Wednesday morning last, while Deputy Sheriff Ashley, of this city, and Mr. Boardman of Milton, were fishing at the lower falls of the Lamoille river at the above place, Mr. B. in attempting to draw in his line discovered it fast to what he supposed was a stone or log on the bottom of the river. In attempting to disengage it, however, he concluded that the object attached to his hook had life in it, and he determined to secure it. He accordingly attached a long line to the end of his fishing rod and let the "animile" have its own way for some two hours, when becoming pretty well exhausted, the fishermen succeeded in capturing it by the aid of a gaff hook which had been sent for, and dragging it ashore, where it proved to be a sturgeon (*genus acipenser*), weighing [illegible] pounds, large enough to furnish Mr. B.'s family for some time with "Albany beef." This seems a pretty large story, and is decidedly fishy, but we have it from parties whose authenticity we can vouch for.

THE CASE OF MR. SANDERSON.—The numerous friends of Mr. Asa Sanderson, of Essex, whose sudden disappearance and forgeries are yet fresh in the minds of the people, will be interested to learn that a letter over his own signature, mailed at Detroit, Mich., informs Constable [illegible] of Essex, that it is of no use to follow him with any expectation of arresting him, for before the letter reaches Essex he will be many hundred miles away. He exonerates the constable from any blame in not arresting him that [illegible]. He says that he slipped away, believing that it was the best way to get out of a bad scrape, and he intends, with the help of God, to return sometime and pay up all his debts. Mr. Sanderson evidently looks at matters in a very philosophical way, and as being of little comparative consequence provided he pays up. The church of which he was an officer and a member, evidently did not so understand it, for we learn that he has been summarily removed from his office of deacon and suspended from communion, till he shall make gospel restitution.

Almost for the first time since the internal revenue law went into operation, the price of whisky is such that the distiller can afford to pay the legal tax and still make a good profit. This marked rise in price would seem to be a very distinct indication that the tax is being collected, under the new administration.