

LOCAL MATTERS.

Almanac for Baltimore—This Day. Sun rises..... 4 54 | EVENING. Sun sets..... 7 00 | Moon rises..... 10 23

H. W. WATER. Baltimore, May 8, 1879.—Time 8:22 A. M., height 1 ft. 3 in.; 8:49 P. M., height 1 ft. 3 in.

U. S. SIGNAL SERVICE MIDNIGHT REPORT. Observations taken at 11:02 P. M., Baltimore Time, May 7, 1879.

STATIONS.	WIND. Direc-tion.	Velocity.	Weather.	Sea Swell.
Cape Hatteras.....	N E	25	Lat't rain	Heavy N E
Kittyhawk.....	N E	18	Cloudy	Heavy N E
Cape Henry.....	E	9	Cloudy	Heavy N E
Norfolk.....	E	4	Cloudy
Cape May.....	S	10	Cloudy
Cape Lookout.....	N E	24	Lg't rain	Heavy N E
Atlantic City.....	S	4	Fair	Light E
Barnegat.....	W	3	Fair	Light S E
Sandy Hook.....	N	10	Fair	Light S E

THE WEATHER TO-DAY.—War Department, Office of the Chief Signal Officer, Washington, D. C., Thursday, May 8, 1 A. M.—Indications.—For the Middle Atlantic States, rising barometer, variable winds, mostly from the north and east, slightly warmer, partly cloudy weather. For New England, rising barometer, northwest to southwest winds, warmer, partly cloudy weather. For the South Atlantic States, northeast to northwest winds, slightly cooler, cloudy and rainy, followed by clearing weather, stationary or higher pressure.

LOCAL REPORT, MAY 7, 1879, BALTIMORE.

Time.	Barome-ter.	Relative Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Velocity of Wind.	Rain Fall.	State of Weather.
7.00	30.261	51	N. W.	5	.00	Fair.
7.42	30.219	62	W.	4	.00	Fair.
8.57	30.135	66	S. E.	8	.00	Clear.
9.00	30.210	59	S. E.	1	.00	Clear.
11.02	30.220	55	S. E.	2	.00	Fair.

Mean barometer..... 30.214 | Max. temperature..... 67 Min. thermometer 58.5 | Min. temperature..... 49 Highest velocity of winds to-day, for one hour, 11 miles.

Midnight Report.—Albena, 41, clear; Boston, 50, fair; Breckinridge, 51, cloudy; Buffalo, 36, clear; Cheyenne, 54, clear; Chicago, 45, clear; Cleveland, 41, clear; Detroit, 39, clear; Duluth, 44, clear; La Crosse, 49, clear; Marquette, 35, clear; Milwaukee, 44, clear; New York, 55, fair; Oswego, 45, cloudy; Pembina, 44, clear; Port Huron, 38, clear; St. Paul, 51, fair; Toledo, 45, clear; Yankton, 47, cloudy.

The Late Mendes I. Cohen—Interesting Sketch of his Life—Reminiscences, &c.—Col. Mendes I. Cohen, whose death was announced in THE SUN yesterday, was one of the worthiest citizens of Baltimore. He was in the 83rd year of his age, and was born in Richmond, Va. For twenty years he pursued the business of a banker in Baltimore, and was always esteemed for his strength of character and energy, which latter impelled him to take a prominent part in many affairs of public importance. Perhaps the most noteworthy of these events was the removal in 1825 of the Jewish disabilities clause in the old constitution of Maryland. Inspired by Col. Cohen, Solomon Etting and other influential Hebrews of that day, the question became a leading issue in the political contests for several years, until success crowned their efforts. The friends of the amendment in the Legislature were marshaled under the leadership of Roger B. Taney, John Tyson, of Baltimore city, and Warfield, of Allegany. At that time the constitution could only be amended by a bill passing two successive sessions of the Legislature, and this amendment passed in 1824 and 1825, there being then yearly sessions. The first Hebrews who were elected to and held civil office in Maryland were Solomon Etting and Jacob I. Cohen, a brother of Mendes I. Cohen, who were elected to the city council of Baltimore in the year 1826, Mr. Etting becoming president of the first branch. The first Hebrew who ever held military rank in the State was Mendes I. Cohen, who was elected captain of the Marlborough Rifles, a city volunteer company, the friends of equal rights and privileges declaring they would never rest in their efforts until Capt. Cohen's right to hold the position was recognized by law. Soon after the bill passed removing the disabilities, Capt. Cohen resigned, his purpose having been answered. He visited the old world three times, traveling through nearly all the countries of Europe and the East. On one of his visits he went out as bearer of dispatches to the United States minister at the court of St. James, Mr. Stevenson, and was present at the coronation of Queen Victoria. He found the title of colonel a serviceable passport to him in traveling in Europe at that time, and always wore on that account the uniform of his rank on all court or state occasions. He received the title of colonel from Governor Vessey, confirmed by the executive council in 1836, having been appointed one of the Governor's aids in recognition, as the letter announcing it stated, of his services during the war of 1812-14.

Col. Cohen was one of the original stockholders in the old Holiday Street Theatre. He was a vice-president of the Hebrew Benevolent Association, a director in the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, and a director in the Firemen's Insurance Company. He was always a firm upholder of the faith of his fathers. In his later years he had several fine collections of old coins, and took much pleasure in their collection, and in numismatics generally. Col. Cohen was the only survivor of Captain Nicholson's artillery company of Fencibles, one of the three Baltimore artillery companies which were stationed at Fort M'Henry during the attack on Baltimore. On the 13th of September, 1875, then in his 79th year, he made his last visit to this fort, to look for the last time, with failing vision, upon the scene which was so well impressed upon his memory in youth, and in which the changes of time had made such a great difference. An interview held with him by a member of THE SUN's staff on this occasion was reduced to writing at the time as an interesting contribution to our local history. Col. Cohen said it was on the 13th of September that the bombardment of the fort took place, and therefore the 13th of September was his anniversary. He was then barely 18 years old, being the youngest of three brothers, Jacob I., Philip I. and Mendes I. Cohen. Capt. Nicholson's company numbered 90 men ordinarily, but for the active service had been raised to 110 men by volunteers. All the members were business men and merchants, who had enlisted at the beginning of the war, though they were only under arms when the city was threatened. Captain Nicholson was the judge of the United States District Court. As soon as the British fleet appeared in the upper part of the Chesapeake bay the company went to Fort M'Henry and remained until the enemy had entirely disappeared. Some days before the bombardment Col. Cohen was in Baltimore on leave, and while thus at his home the alarm was sounded and the male population rushed to arms. This alarm was a gun fired at the corner of Baltimore and Calvert streets. One of the bodies of soldiers assembled at Baltimore and Howard streets. Arms were distributed to several regiments at Pratt and Light streets. Colonel Cohen joined these later, under what was supposed to be an emergency of the hour, and marched with them to Holiday Street Theatre, where an account was taken of the force and its accoutrement. Learning there that no unexpected peril had called on the force, the young soldier remembered that his service was first due to his artillery company at the fort, and looking around for a substitute, a boy 14 years of age offered to take his place in the ranks. Young Cohen transferred his gun to the youth, and then, taking a boat, rowed to Fort M'Henry and joined his own company. Capt. Nicholson's artillery was posted at what was known as the Star Fort, in the centre of the works. When the public buildings at Washington were burned the light of the conflagration was plainly seen by Cohen and his comrades at the fort. The position was only a series of uncovered earthworks, open to the shells of the bombardment. The principal magazine was in the Star Fort. Of Capt. Nicholson's company two were killed during the bombardment and several wounded, but none severely. A shell exploded on the wheel of one of the guns, killing First Lieut. Claggett, who was of the family so long known as brewers in Baltimore. The other lieutenants were Andrew Klopfer and Jesse Eichelberger. First Sergt. Clemm was the other member of the company killed, having had his side torn by the fragment of a shell, and dying in a few moments. The bombardment commenced at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 13th of September, 1814, and continued twenty-four hours. The garrison saw the flag of truce carried during the bombardment by the small boat in which Francis Scott Key visited the British fleet to obtain the release of his friend, Dr. Beane, of Prince George's county, who had been made a prisoner of war, and was on board one of the ships, where he was detained until after the firing had ceased. On the cessation of the bombardment Mr. Key was permitted to leave the enemy's ships, and was rowed to the fort, bearing with him the song of the "Star-Spangled Banner," which he had composed during the watches of the night. Soon after he landed the rough draft of the verses, as he had just written them down on the back of a letter, whilst coming ashore in the rowboat, were handed around, and some of the garrison made copies of them. Judge Nicholson, the captain of the artillery company, and Mr. Key had married sisters, and the Judge seems to have been the first person to whom the author showed the verses. The same night, at his hotel in Baltimore, Mr. Key wrote out a fair copy of the verses as they now stand, and the next day gave a copy to Judge Nicholson, who had the song published, and it was sung publicly for the first time shortly afterwards in the Holiday Street Theatre. Col. Cohen's recollection of this episode, if not exactly confirmatory of the narrative by Judge Taney, in Tyler's life of the great Chief Justice, is at least not inconsistent with that interesting statement. Col. Cohen was very distinct in his remembrance that the song was copied by some of the soldiers at the fort, and no doubt it was shown to Judge Nicholson there.

Death of a Prominent Business Man.—Yesterday Mr. John B. Ludington, aged 49 years, senior member of the firm of J. Ludington & Co., oyster packers, East Baltimore, died, after an illness of ten days, of peritonitis, at his late residence, No. 11 North Broadway. Mr. Ludington was well and favorably known among the packers of this city. He had resided in Baltimore since 1867. He was a native of Fair Haven, Conn., where his remains will be taken for interment, and was a Mason and member of the Knights Templar Commandery of Fair Haven. He leaves a wife and six children surviving.

An Athletic Tournament of the Lafayette Turn Association at Newington Park, yesterday presented a varied programme, and the members who took part in it acquitted themselves very creditably. Mr. D. C. Ross, instructor to the club, was director, and Messrs. E. W. Johnston and William Miller were referees.

The first event was a two-mile race, go as you please, for members of the association, eight times round the field making the distance. There were eight starters, Messrs. W. Dilloway, W. E. Sprigg, O. A. Spies, H. and H. W. Anderson, E. Cable, F. Suehle and C. Smith. All of them started off at a rattling pace, which was maintained for the first three laps. At the fourth lap the strain began to tell, and some of the men dropped to the rear. Mr. H. Anderson then drew ahead, but was closely pressed by Smith, who soon came abreast of him. Dilloway next spurred, and the race was virtually between him and Smith, but on the last lap Smith quickened his stride and came down the home stretch as fresh as a daisy, winning easily. Time, 12:76 1/2.

To the fat men's race of 150 yards came A. B. Dietz, weighing 205 lbs., and P. Gumpman, who was handicapped with 10 lbs. more. Both men, as fat men usually are, were good-natured and smiling. At the word go the spectators could see looming up from the further end of the field two flying figures, not long but broad, propelled at a rate of speed contradictory of the axiom that large bodies move slowly. Dietz was the winner, the time being 18 1/2 seconds.

For the running long jump Messrs. C. Smith, F. Suehle, P. Hindman, U. Gillmor and J. Renwick contested. Gillmor was the winner, his best jump being 15 feet 2 inches. A hurdle race of a quarter mile, with 8 hurdles, 3 1/2 feet high, came next. The starters were C. Smith, C. Gillmor, O. F. Andreae, Francis Eline and H. Anderson. Eline led the race, and took every hurdle as gracefully as a deer, while the others succeeded in tripping up and occasionally coming to grief. Eline won; time 1:17.

Throwing a 56-lb. weight, to which was attached an iron link for the purpose of handling, brought to the front Messrs. D. C. Ross, J. Daley and E. W. Johnston. Each man had three throws, and Ross was the winner, his best throw being 24 feet 9 inches. The same men followed in the throwing of the 12 lb. hammer. As the athletes swung the formidable-looking instrument round and round their heads the careless spectators, who had been crowding the men, moved to safe distances. Ross was again the winner, his best throw being 100 feet 1 inch. In putting the stones, (18 lbs.) by the same men, Ross was also the victor, his best score being 38 feet.

The tournament ended with a tug of war between two rival eights of the association, Messrs. P. Gumpman, J. Jenkins, A. B. Dietz, F. Suehle, A. B. Davis, T. B. McCairr and J. Renwick were commanded by D. C. Ross, and Messrs. W. Waxter, W. Dilloway, C. F. Andreae, C. Smith, H. Eussale, P. Hugman and J. Ryan by Wm. Miller. The rival crews grasped the rope and began a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull together, although in opposite directions. Encouraged by the shouts of their captain they tugged and strained with a will, and for a time the result was uncertain, but Ross's team had the advantage not only of muscle but of weight, the two fat men being amongst them, and their lighter antagonists were forced to give up the struggle. The arrangements throughout the tournament were well carried out.

Unknown Dead.—A post mortem was made yesterday at the City Hospital of the remains of a man who died of injuries received Tuesday, when he was knocked from the track of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad, at the Back river crossing, by the limited express coming south. He was walking on the track across the bridge when the train came along. The engineer had not time to stop before the man was run over. The base of his skull was mashed in and the left arm was broken in two places. He never spoke after the accident. He was about thirty-five years old, wore blue overalls and working shirt, but had nothing by which he could be identified. The body was at the City Hospital last night awaiting friends to claim it.

The body of the man killed near Hanover Switch, on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, Tuesday night, will remain at the dead-house, Mount Olive Station, to-day, for identification. An examination of the body made yesterday revealed the words John Kelly tattooed on the right arm, and in his pockets were found two handkerchiefs, box of matches, a dime, a cent, a pair of spectacles tied with black thread, and a slip of paper on which was written, "Mr. Owen Sweeney, 459 Centre street, Trenton, N. J." If the body is not identified to-day it will be interred in the railroad company's lot in the Western Cemetery.

Stocks of Corporations.—Tax Commissioner Woolford yesterday turned over to the Appeal Tax Court his assessment of the stock of all the corporations in the city of Baltimore subject to taxation. Col. Woolford has found the duties of his office very laborious, and requiring a great deal of painstaking work in order to ascertain the true value of many stocks, but believes that his assessment will be found fair and equitable, and prove satisfactory to the owners. The total of the value of stocks of Baltimore corporations he has not summed up, but as a rule there is an increase over the values of last year. Colonel Woolford and the judges of the Appeal Tax Court were engaged last night until a late hour in conference upon the valuation of some of the stocks about which he had not been able to determine conclusively. They expect to conclude their work to-day, and the assessment will be ready for the tax bills on Monday next. The clerks of the tax department were busily engaged last night writing out the bills.

Ham-Sausage Legislation.—The ordinance which passed the council last night regulating the sales of meats in the markets is a compromise between the demands of the ham-sausage men and the butchers. It provides that no person shall sell any meat in any part of the markets other than in the regularly licensed butchers' stalls, under penalty of a fine of \$10. Farmers are allowed to sell meats which are exclusively the product of their own farms; bacon sellers to make such sales as are authorized by license; and persons having license to vend puddings and sausages, to sell ham sausages, dried beef and cooked meats. The ham-sausage men wished to be allowed to sell all pieces of meat which cannot be conveniently made into puddings or sausages, but the bacon sellers, who pay a heavier license, objected, and, being supported by the butchers, the sausage men yielded on condition of being allowed to sell "dried beef and cooked meats."

Death of Dr. Acosta.—Governor Carroll on Tuesday received cable intelligence of the death of Dr. Elzilo Acosta, his brother-in-law, at Paris. Dr. Acosta about ten years ago married Miss Mary Carroll, sister of the Governor. The Doctor was a native of Venezuela, and was distinguished in the city of Caracas before he came to the United States. During a long residence in New York he ranked among the eminent men in his profession. For some years he resided in Paris, with his wife and daughter, who survive him. His standing among the profession in Paris was as eminent as in the other cities where he had previously lived. Dr. Acosta was of middle age, attractive presence and accomplished manners, and the news of his death is regretted by a large circle of friends in this city.

The Moore Centenary.—A preliminary meeting of citizens, Hon. Wm. J. O'Brien presiding, was held at Rainey's Hall last night to make arrangements for a suitable celebration in Baltimore of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Thomas Moore, the favorite poet of Ireland, on the 28th inst. It was stated that celebrations would be held in other cities, and that it would be especially appropriate that the day should be observed in Baltimore as a city for which Mr. Moore had expressed his admiration when in America. On motion of Mr. Michael A. Mullin it was ordered that a committee of eleven citizens should be appointed to determine the character of the celebration to be held and have full charge of all arrangements. Adjourned.

Loss of a Vessel.—A dispatch received in Baltimore yesterday brought intelligence of the total loss of the schooner Eliza Christie, Capt. McKinnon, at Arecibo, Porto Rico, April 24. The vessel was 114 tons, hailed from Cape Breton, and had been for several voyages in the service of C. Morton Stewart & Co., of this city. The schooner had not discharged all of the outward cargo when wrecked. Arecibo is an open roadstead, frequently swept by northers, which drive vessels ashore. The consignees here believe all the crew escaped, otherwise their dispatch would have stated that some were lost. Capt. McKinnon was accompanied by his wife, whom he married in Baltimore some months ago.

Target Excursion.—Yesterday afternoon company A, Fifth Regiment, M. N. G., Captain Thomas, visited the Patapsco Rifle Range, on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and engaged in target practice. Private Frank Redwood, company A, won the first prize, a gold medal; Dr. C. A. Scott, of Capt. Brown's company, won the second prize, a silver medal, and private Johnson, of company A, secured the leather medal for the worst shot. After the practice the command partook of a substantial supper at the Relay House, and returned to the city at 8:20 P. M.

Mr. Moody's Return.—Mr. D. L. Moody resumed his discourses in Baltimore yesterday, preaching afternoon and evening at Mount Vernon Place M. E. Church to crowded congregations, the discourse of the afternoon being reflections upon a portion of the history of the prophet Elisha. At night he repeated a sermon delivered some weeks since on the subject "There is no difference." The argument and illustrations used were designed to show that God punished sin because of its quality, and not for its quantity.

Police Parade.—The board of police commissioners yesterday fixed next Thursday, May 15, for the annual parade of the police department. The same programme as last year will be carried out. The force will be in command of Marshals Gray and Frey. Fifteen platoons of twenty-four men each, with their superior officers, will be in line. The middle district will furnish four platoons, southern three, and eastern, northeastern, western and northwestern districts each two platoons. About 400 men will parade.