BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

"THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS."

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Latest News by Telegraph

TO THE

BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

DETROIT TRADE CONVENTION.

DETROIT, July 14.—In the Trade Convention to-day, J. A. Bower, of Chicago, from the Committee on Commerce, made a report commending to the consideration of the legislative bodies of the various States and of the nation, the following subjects:—Construction of the Illinois River and Bay Ship Canals; Improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers; improvement of the canals of New York; cheapening railroad freights and the increase of the capacity of railroads to carry freight; relief of our shipping and railroad interests from several Government taxations; improved system of surveys and soundings; improvement in custom houses and light houses; early improvement of Western rivers and harbors; judicious encouragement of regular lines of steamships to countries upon this continent and Europe; and regulation of our commerce and carrying trade with the Canadas and Europe as will best promote the general interests of our own people.

The report also asks the Convention to give the weight of its influence in favor of building up our common country in such a manner as to give us union, prosperity and peace. The report was adopted on motion of Mr. Scammon.

The Convention agreed to adjourn at 3 o'clock this afternoon, *sine die*.

The debate was then resumed on the Reciprocity Treaty.

Mr. Howe, of Nova Scotia, had consent to place on the journal his report on a ship canal from the St. Lawrence river to the Hudson.

Mr. Alexander's report in favor of a decimal system of weights and measures, was referred to a special committee from the States and British Provinces.

Mr. Alexander's report in favor of a national Board of Trade, was referred to a special committee to report forthwith.

Mr. Brown, from the committee on river and harbor improvements, reported a resolution recognising the national character of the navigable rivers and lake harbors, which offered facilities for conducting the commerce of the country from which the Government derives large revenues, and stating that as the sense of the Convention that it is to the interest as well as the duty of the General Government to make such improvement on such rivers and harbors as necessity may develope and as the condition of the Treasury will warrant.

The report of Mr. Howes, of Nova Scotia, was important in the announcement it contained, that the annexation of the British Provinces to the United States, had no place in the minds of the people of the Provinces, and that any one who should go to the hustings as an advocate for annexation would be treated as a fugitive from loyalty and allegiance due from him as a British American.

The resolutions recommending the negotiation of a reciprocity treaty received the unanimous vote of the Convention, after which the body adjourned *sine die*.

THE 7-30 LOAN.

PHILADELPHIA, July 14.—The subscriptions to-day to the 7-30 loan, as telegraphed to Jay Cooke, subscription agent, amount to $4,516,500, including the following:—Boston National Bank, Boston, $200,000; Farmers' National Bank, Lancaster, Pa., $100,000; Commonwealth National Bank, N. Y., $100,000; National Bank of Richmond, Va., $100,000; 3d National Bank, Cincinnati, $100,000; 1st National Bank of New Albany, $100,000; 3d National Bank of St Louis, $100,000; 4th National Bank, N. Y., $200,000; 9th National Bank, N. Y., $338,350; National Bank of Newburg, $100,000; Montpelier National Bank of Montpelier, Vt., $50,000; Brewster, Sweet & Co., Boston, $100,000; C. A. Putnam & Co., Boston, $200,000; 2d National Bank, Chicago, $235,000, 3d National Bank, Chicago, $100,000; Hanna, Hart & Co., Pittsburg, $100,000; Merchants' Bank of Cleveland, $150,000 — There were 3,163 individual subscriptions for small amounts.

FROM MEXICO.

NEW ORLEANS, July 14.—Mexican advices of the 8th are received.

Gens. Lopez and Olivier had returned from their pursuit of the remnant of Negret's forces, which had generally disbanded in Texas.

Cortinas lately captured two steamers on the Rio Grande.

The Commercial says that Cortenas positively, and in a manner officially, established his headquarters on the Texas side of the Rio Grande, and the American authorities had been constrained by the protests of the Imperial Government to order Cortenas to keep to his house — News from the interior of Mexico show the Empire to be in a peaceful state. Maximillian is striving to improve the country and encourage education.

Guerillas continue to swarm about Matamoras in great numbers. Rebels are still arriving in Mexico from the United States.

RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICE IN THE SOUTHERN STATES—PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR OF FLORIDA APPOINTED.

WASHINTON, July 14.—The Postmaster General has notified the Provisional Governors that the postal service will be resumed on all the lines of railroads in the South as soon as soon as they respectively certify that the routes are in proper condition for that purpose.

The President has issued his proclamation appointing Judge William Marvin Provisional Governor of Florida. The form is precisely the same as that used in the appointment of other Provisional Governors for the Southern States, and for similar purposes.

FROM ALABAMA.

NEW ORLEANS, July 13.—The Times' special correspondent says that citizens from the interior announce that Mr. Parsons' appointment to the Governorship is satisfactory. Many of the crops in the State will be lost for want of negroes to gather them.

STATEMENT OF GEN. SHERMAN IN REGARD TO HIS ESTIMATE OF TROOPS NEEDED TO SUBDUE THE REBELLION.

CINCINNATI, July 14.—At a festival given in honor of General Sherman and General Cox, at Columbus yesterday, General Sherman alluded to the charge that while he was in command in Kentucky, he had demanded for the campaign 200,000 men. He said, the fact was, that, when visited by Secretary Cameron, he explained the difficulty of marching in Tennessee by divergent lines, one to Nashville, and the other to East Tennessee, with a force largely outnumbered by the rebel armies confronting him.

In one of these he had but 4,300 men to meet an opposing force of 18,000 men.—When asked by Secretary Cameron how many men were needed, he replied: "For the present campaign 60,000 men, and before you can reduce the South to subjection you must have 200,000 men. This statement, made in Secretary Cameron's military family, was afterwards published in the Eastern papers in a distorted and incorrect form.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, July 13.—The Macon Telegraph says that all the jewelry belonging to citizens which was sent off on the approach of the Federal army, afterwards captured near Athens, has been returned over and will be in Macon again in a few days. Also, the gold captured from the Central Railroad Company last April, has been returned by the military authorities.

The U. S. steamer Yantic has arrived from Norfolk and will soon sail for the West Indies.

The U. S. steamer Casandra, from New Orleans, for New York, put into Hampton Roads this morning and landed General Opdyke, and several other passengers.

The steamer Robert Morris, from Baltimore, arrived this morning.

Gen. Mulford reached here this morning from Richmond, on business. He is in fine health.

The steamer Norfolk, from City Point, with the 8th Minnesota regiment, for Baltimore, en route for home arrived here to-day.

General Toombs has succeeded in making his way out of this country, and is now in Cuba.

PLASTERER'S CONVENTION.

PITTSBURG, July 14.—In the Plasterer's Convention to day, the manner in which ornamental work is done in certain cities by men not in the trade was discussed at considerable length, and a motion was unanimously carried, after the 1st of January next no plasterer will work for bosses who shall not put up their own ornaments. Mr. O'Connor of New York, Chairman of the Committee on the State of the Trade, submitted a report in which he suggested local organizations, to take immediate action on the question of lathing and ornamental work, and that the hours of labor be reduced to eight per day.

A MOTHER PLEADING FOR HER SON.

HARRISBURG, July 13.—Mrs. Gregory, the mother of one of the men to be hung in Philadelphia on the 11th of August, was in consultation with the Governor last night. She plead earnestly for the pardon or commutation of her son's sentence. No definite answer was given.

FIRE AT CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, July 13.—O. S. Murray's soap factory, No. 7 Genesee street, was destroyed by fire this morning. Loss $15,000; insured for about $6,000. Cinsmister's carriage and wagon factory, immediately adjoining, was also damaged. Loss $3,000; partly insured.

RESIGNATION OF COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—David P. Holloway, Commissioner of Patents, resigned to-day. His determination was suddenly formed, and was caused by some disagreement with Secretary Harlan, and a belief that the Secretary intended to supersede him at some future time, so he decided to anticipate it by resigning. Holloway has held the position for four years and a half, and was a faithful, energetic officer. Joseph Theacker, of Ohio, is spoken of as likely to be his successor.

TREATMENT OF OUR PRISONERS.—The Government has dispatched a promisant gentleman to Andersonville, Ga., for the purpose of investigating the charges of cruel treatment towards Union prisoners confined in the camp there, in order that the parties guilty of the barbarities may be brought to speedy justice. It is understood that several parties now under arrest and in confinement.—*Washington Star.*

TOBACCO.—The market for the Indian weed is very animated, with a light supply and brisk demand. The following prices were obtained at Tuesday's sale at the Seabrook warehouse: Lugs, $6 75@9. Leaf, common, $9@15; good, $15@17. The last price was given for a fine article, the property of Mr. A. Hutchinson, and is, we believe, the highest yet paid since the close of the war.—*Richmond Bulletin.*

A new process of boiling the juice of the sugar-cane has recently been introduced in the island of Antigua, West Indies, which does not convert the juice into separate articles, distinct in nature, such as sugar, molasses and rum, but into a solid compound containing all these articles in a single mass, from which, after cooling, the refiner extracts the various articles of commerce which it contains. The new process was discovered by an English chemist, and it is thought that it will work quite a revolution in sugar making everywhere.

During the past week two duels have been fought in the rear of New Orleans. The parties were all Creoles, and one well known individual was a principal in both affairs — He came off winner in both, killing his opponent in one instance, and probably fatally wounding the other in the abdomen. The cause seems to have arisen out of the war.—The two injured men were returned Confederates who twitted the victor as a stay at-home, he never having been in the army.

The editor of the Milwaukee News has been shown a watch, now the property of Mrs. D. U. Lee, of Henricus, Dodge county, and once the property of the celebrated Maj. Andre. There are but four figures on the face: 3, 6, 9 and 12, the other divisions being indicated by a little gold star. On the back, inside, are directions for winding, and the following: "Maj Andre, 1774," engraved in bold letters.

The Allentown (Pa.) Democrat says that in consequence of the want of demand for iron since the cessation of the war, every iron establishment in the Lehigh Valley has blown out one, two or more stacks, and pig iron is piled up on the banks of the canal and along the railroad by the acre.

A man in Lynn has a fine apple orchard which has been much troubled by the canker worms. A short time since he girdled every one of the trees with an axe, giving as a reason for his strange conduct, that he was determined not to feed the canker worms any longer.

CONFLAGRATION IN NEW YORK.

Immense Destruction of Property.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM IN RUINS.

Eleven Other Buildings Destroyed

VERY EXCITING SCENES IN THE MUSEUM.

Burning of Animals and Curiosities

TREPIDATION OF THE FAT MEN AND WOMEN

Their Escape from the Flames.

LOSS OVER A MILLION AND A HALF.

[From the New York Evening Post, July 13.]

Shortly after noon to-day a terrible fire occurred in the American Museum, extending rapidly to the adjacent buildings on Broadway, Ann street, and Fulton street. The aggregate loss is probably one million of dollars, on which there is an insurance to the amount of half a million of dollars.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE.

At thirty-five minutes past twelve o'clock a fire caught beneath Groot's restaurant in Ann street, at the corner of the Museum building. In about two minutes, the flames burst out in Jones' shoe store, Nos 10 and 12 Ann street, with every indication of an extensive conflagration.

The fire companies were immediately on the ground and promptly set to work, with apparent success; but the smoke was blinding, and for some minutes the whole Museum building was completely out of sight.

At 12½ o'clock the flames burst out in the second story of the Museum, just over the restaurant, and spread with amazing rapidity, fed by the light and combustible material.

RAPID SPREAD OF THE FIRE.

In a moment the fire mounted to the third story, and at forty minutes past twelve burst out of every window on the Ann street side of the Museum. It gave way apparently on the two lower floors, but raged furiously in the two upper stories. Part of the roof fell in five minutes later, and the neighboring buildings on Ann street were attacked.

The firemen rallied in great force, but the flames were fanned by a strong breeze which swept them over the roofs of the adjoining buildings on Broadway, and in a few minutes the fire had gained a hold in the three upper stories of No. 211 Broadway

The building was occupied by Rogers & Raymond, clothiers, and by the billiard saloon of Wallace & Reeves. It was entirely destroyed, except the walls, which were still standing at two o'clock.

THE SCENE.

The scene at this moment was fearfully grand. Vast volumes of smoke poured out of the windows on the Broadway and Ann street fronts of the Museum; huge tongues of flames rose from the middle of the building, and smaller darts of fire caught the transparences and signs; three floors of the building No. 213 Broadway were a mass of light flame; fireman and property owners were springing up and down ladders to remove such portable articles as could be passed out; a tremendous crowd filled the Park, the west side of Broadway, Vesey street, Barclay street, and every other place which commanded a view of the scene; while twenty steam and hand fire engines poured incessant streams of water upon the flaming mass. As the flames gained strength and volume the heat became intense, forcing back the crowd, but subjecting the firemen to severe suffering.

NO PERSON INJURED.

So far as can now be ascertained, none of the visitors in the Museum, nor persons employed by Mr. Barnum, were injured. The alarm caused by the discovery of the fire in the restaurant on Ann street was the signal for a general flight, and it is believed that everybody escaped safely before the Museum caught.

It was very fortunate that the fire occurred at mid-day. Had it taken place in the evening, when the Museum is crowded with visitors, and the theatre crammed with spectators, the limited means of egress would have proved lamentably insufficient.

THE CURIOSITIES AND ANIMALS.

The sudden leap of the flames from floor to floor made it impossible to remove many of the curiosities contained in the Museum, and the living animals on exhibition were speedily destroyed. The "Happy Family" of cats, rats, pigeons, monkeys and parrots, caged in the centre of the fifth floor, soon became very unhappy, and departed this life. It was impossible to save any of the poor creatures. The whales, also, came to an untimely end.

THE FALL OF THE FRONT.

At fifteen minutes before two o'clock the front of the Museum fell in three different sections, one after the other. The first to fall was the part parallel with Broadway, which went over in one mass, falling flat on the pavement of the street, and then, and not till then, breaking up into innumerable fragments.

Another section was left in the shape of an elongated triangle, and not unlike the steeple of a church. In a few moments this sunk slowly down, the point still remaining upright and in position until the whole section disappeared. It did not appear to fell, but apparently sunk into the earth. This was exactly analogous to the fall or sinking of the spire of Chichester Cathedral in England a few years ago.

The section of the front wall facing on Park Row and at a slight deviation from the parallel of Broadway, still remained, and all eyes were turned in its direction It was a very large, high portion, reaching to the uppermost story. About five minutes later this great facade careened gracefully over and slowly fell, not in among the burning ruins, but *out* on Broadway. It fell as a trap door on a hinge, and remained intact until it was smashed upon the pavement, sending up a frightful spray of bricks and mortar, and a vast cloud of smoke. This finished the old Museum.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

At about a quarter to one o'clock the heat became so intense that it set the easterly front of St. Paul's Church on fire. Several fire companies turned their attention upon the building, and continued to play upon the edifice until the Museum and the other buildings fronting on Broadway had been consumed.

The pillars of the church are slightly flaked by the intense heat, but no further damage has been done to this venerable and historical church edifice.

THE SCENE FROM ANN STREET.

It is now definitely ascertained that the fire proceeded from the boiler room, in the northeastern corner of the Museum building, immediately under Groot's restaurant, on Ann street; at 12 35 P. M. the alarm was given.

The roof of the Museum had now fallen, and the interior of the building was like the crater of a volcano. A stream of heated air issued from the top, and was borne eastward by the breeze directly over the block, carrying with it light articles, pieces of burning wood, shingles, &c. One man on Ann street, not far from Nassau, was struck on the head by a shingle, and knocked down. Others were in much darger by the pieces of burning material falling on their heads and clothing.

This served to clear the street, so that the firemen were left masters of the situation.

At half past one came a crash resounding like the explosion of a powder magazine. The whole wall on the Ann street side had fallen. A cloud of dust and smoke filled the air, making it dark as twilight, and rendering it impossible to descry objects at short distances

The fire next communicated to the roof of Swift's book-bindery, No. 14 and also No. 16, the publishing house of Dick & Fitzgerald, and gutted them completely.

At fifteen minutes before two, another crash was heard. The Broadway front had fallen, and it was now a clear view over the whole burning mass into Broadway.

AN EXPLOSION AND A PANIC.

There were several minor panics during the fire. The sound of an explosion was heard about half past one o'clock, and immediately at least a thousand people scampered out of the way. A great number of men fell down and at least a hundred hats were lost. Boys were even going around with half a dozen hats on their heads, and more hapless men were hatless.

"A LION IN THE WAY."

A report was started at one time that an escaped lion from the Museum was rushing down Broadway, and the result was the sudden flight of a few nervous people, who, imparting their terror to others, brought about quite a stampede.

THIEVES ARRESTED.

During the progress of the fire two men dressed as soldiers were seen coming out of the shoe store in Ann street, each with five or six pairs of shoes under their coats. They were immediately arrested and forwarded to the station house.

One man stepped into the clothing store of Rogers & Raymond, on Broadway, and coolly putting on a linen wrapper was about leaving the store, when a clerk stopped him. Another man took off his coat, put on a fine frock coat and putting his own over it, attempted to escape. He was arrested by a policeman.

A portion of Knox's stock of hats was taken out of the store. The crowd seized a large number of fine Panama hats, with which they escaped.

A PANIC IN FULTON STREET.

At ten minutes to three o'clock the rear walls on Fulton street fell, making a loud noise. The crowd, believing an explosion had occurred, fled in the utmost terror. No damage, however, was done.

CURIOSITIES SAVED.

The only curiosities reported to have been saved beside the fat woman, (who was taken in charge by a policeman,) were the live seal and a case of rare coins.

STATEMENT OF AN EMPLOYEE.

From Mr. Oscar Kohn, the aquarian of the Museum, we obtain the following statement containing additional particulars of the conflagration:

I came back from my dinner at about a quarter past noon, when I observed a rush down the stairs. Proceeding at once to the engine room in the basement, I saw the fire directly over the boiler, and then went to the ground floor and saw the flames burst from the ladies' private room.

The giantess, Anna Swan, stood at the head of the stairs, as if swooning from the effects of the smoke, which then came down in columns. I took her to the Belmont House. Coming back, I found it impossible to enter the upper stories.—Miss Swan lost everything except the clothes she wore. She had in her trunk about one hundred and twenty dollars in gold, some greenbacks, and all her clothing. About one hundred people are thrown out of employment, many of whom have been in Mr. Barnum's employ for years.

RESCUE OF THE SEAL.

"Ned," the learned seal, was rescued from the burning building by a Brooklyn fireman, Mr. C. C. Pearson, of Hose 1. He was dragged out by the flukes, placed in a champagne basket, and conveyed on a car. to Fulton Market, where a convenient fish tank was found, in which he was placed, and thus restored to his proper element. He did not seem to at all appreciate the attentions he was receiving, but snapped at his preserver and all who came within reach. One of the passers by was nearly deprived of his nether garments by a nip from the sharp fangs of the creature.

BARNUM'S TIGER.

It is reported that an excited individual rushed into the room where the tiger was confined and was about to break the cage, when he was restrained by persons in the apartment. Great consternation prevailed for a few moments.

Mr. Barnum was absent at the time of the conflagration, he being in Connecticut. He was at once telegraphed for, and is now momentarily expected.

PANIC AT A FARO TABLE.

At the "Club House" on the corner of Ann street, a number of men were engaged in a game of faro. No sooner was the cry raised than they all decamped, leaving the rooms open for the crowd to enter, who were not slow in despoiling the sideboard of whiskey, choice sugars and wines.

THE MUSEUM IN RUINS.

At four o'clock a dark mist of vapor and smoke, mingled occasionally with flashes of fire, marked the site where Barnum's Museum stood at noon. The streets were covered with the debris of the ruins, and vigorous streams were played on the walls and the scattered bulwark of the building.

The leaves on the trees in the churchyard presented the withered appearance which marks them in the fall, owing to the fire.

The blocks extending in a direct and square line from the Museum to the parallel buildings in Fulton street, presented a mass of dilapidated buildings, the walls alone remaining to show their character. Now and then the terrific sounds of tottering walls were heard, and the people in the street, warned by the alarm, would rush to some place of safety.

THE ASTOR HOUSE.

A great number of people made unsuccessful attempts to enter the Astor House to view the fire. They represented they were the guests of the house, but an "expert," officer Devoy, who knew the boarders, discovered the ruse, and thus prevented the building from being crowded. During the day wet blankets were placed on the windows of the edifice, to prevent them from being fired.

THE LOSS.

It is estimated that the loss will not fall much short of a million and a quarter.—The loss in curiosities cannot be replaced, while that on buildings, stock and machinery in the different buildings will reach near $700,000.

THE BUILDING

Belonged to the Astor estate, and was held by Mr. Barnum, on a lease having a number of years to run. The contents were insured for about $75,000 in various city offices, whose policies averaged about $2500 each

The engine was entirely bricked in, and the engine room lined throughout with sheet iron.

INCIDENTS.

Among the hundreds of incidents of the conflagration a few were of great interest.

One fireman was seen emerging from the building with a stuffed owl in his hands. Another fastened on one of the wax figures. Several other curiosities have been saved, and will doubtless be restored to Mr. Barnum. Jeff. Davis' petticoats (!) were seen hanging upon a lamp post in Fulton street soon after the fire broke out.

[From the Tribune.]

OUR REPORTER'S VISION OF LIFE AND DEATH.

Our reporter fortunately occupies a room on the south side of Ann street, corner of Broadway, the windows of which look immediately into this compartment; and no sooner was he apprised of the fire than he repaired there, confident of finding "items" in abundance. Luckily the windows of the Museum were unclosed, and he had a perfect view of almost the entire interior of the apartment. The following is his statement what of followed, in his own language:

CONFUSION AND STRUGGLE IN THE MENAGERIE.

Protecting myself from the intense heat as well as I could by taking the mattress from the bed and erecting it as a bulwark before the window, with only enough space reserved on the top as a look-out, I anxiously observed the animals in the opposite room. Immediately opposite the window through which I gazed, was a large cage containing a lion and lioness. To the right hand was the three-storied cage, containing monkeys at the top, two kangaroos in the second story, and a "happy family," of rats, cats, adders, rabbits, etc., in the lower compartments.

To the left of the lion's cage was the tank containing the two vast alligators, and still further to the left, partially hidden from my sight, was the grand tank containing the great white whale, which has created such a furore in our sight seeing midst for the past few weeks. Upon the floor was caged the boa constrictors, anacondas and rattlesnakes, whose heads would now and then rise menacingly through the top of the cage. In the extreme right was the cage entirely shut from my view at first, containing the Bengal tiger and the Polar bear, whose terrified growls could be distinctly heard from behind the petition.

PROGRESS OF THE FLAMES.

The conflagration was, as yet, confined to the upper part of the building The lower walls, however, were becoming rapidly heated, and all of the animals began to manifest much uneasiness. The white or silver fox ran up and down his cage, whining piteously and endeavoring to escape. The lions also paced hurriedly up and down, moaning most dismally, and all the other beasts manifested similar uneasiness. The serpents stuck their heads up above the sill of the window and writhed about in strange convulsions.

When the fire had eaten its swift way down to the third floor, and the lurid glare burst through the transoms of the doors, the panic among the beasts became positively fearful. They sprang against their iron bars and strove to rend them with their teeth, at the same time sending forth savage and frightened cries, which were almost human in their agony. At length, when the flames burst through the top of the door, and commenced to lick the top of the cages, the tumult reached its height. Yells, roars, howls and screams went up from the doomed brutes, which were heard at the distance of half a mile.

SELF-EMANCIPATION OF THE LIONS.

With a simultaneous bound, the lion and his mate sprang against their bars which gave way, and came down with a great crash, releasing the beasts, which for a moment, apparently amazed at their sudden liberty, stood in the middle of the floor, lashing their sides with their tails and roaring dolefully.

THE LION AND TIGER IN CLOSE CONTEST.

A horrible howl in the right hand corner of the room, a yell of indescribable agony, and a crashing, grating sound indicated that the tiger and polar bear were stirred up to the highest pitch of excitement. Then there came a great crash as of the giving way of the bars of the cage. The flames and smoke momentarily rolled back, and for a few seconds the interior of the room was visible in the lurid light of the flames, which revealed the tiger and lion locked together in close combat.

PARTICIPATION OF THE SERPENTS.

The base of the rods of the serpents' cage had also crumbled, and the largest boa constrictor—about 20 feet long and as thick as a man's body—was also engaged in deadly struggle with the lioness.

THE POLAR BEAR IN A WARM PLACE.

The polar bear had shrunk to the coolest corner, with half his hair burned from his snowy coat, and there sat wonderingly gazing upon the scene before him. Accustomed, as he had been, to deal with only the walrus and the seal in the cold blue waters of the Arctic regions, he was evidently considerably alarmed at the excessively torrid scene, which was blazing through the room. Under the circumstances he found it impossible to take it cooler.

THE SNAKES AND MONKEYS IN TROUBLE.

The monkeys were perched around the windows, shivering with dread and afraid to jump out. The snakes were writhing about, crippled and blistered by the heat, darting out their forked tongues and expressing their rage and fear in the most sibilant of hisses.

THE HAPPY FAMILY BAPTISED WITH FIRE.

The "Happy Family" were experiencing an amount of beatitude which was evidently too cordial for philosophical enjoyment. A long tongue of flame had crept under the cage, completely singeing every hair from the cat's body. The felicitous scamper was slowly burning in two, and busily engaged in impregnating his agonized system with his own venom. The joyful rat had lost his tail by a falling bar of iron, and the beatific rabbit, perforated by a red hot nail, looked as if nothing would be a more grateful than a cool corner in some Esquimaux farm-yard. The members of the delectated convocation were all huddled together in the bottom of their cage, which suddenly gave way, precipitating them out of view into the depths below, which by this time were also blazing like the fabled Tophet.

CONTINUATION OF THE STRUGGLE.

Meanwhile the lion and the tiger were continuing their contest, now with the advantage on one side, now on the other; and the boa was slowly tightening his fatal coils round the panting body of the lioness, which, however, bit and struggled, lacerating the striped skin of its adversary terribly. The floor was already crimson with their blood, while the commingling hisses, howls, yells and roars utterly surpassed all efforts at description.

THE WHALE AND ALLIGATORS IN TORMENT.

At this moment the flames rolled again into the room and then again retired. The whale and alligators were by this time suffering dreadful torments. The water in which they swam was literally boiling. The alligators dashed fiercely about endeavoring to escape, and opening and shutting their great jaws in ferocious torture; but the poor whale, almost boiled, with great ulcers bursting from his blubbery sides, could only feebly swim about, though blowing excessively, and every now and then sending up great fountains of spray.

At length crack went the glass sides of the great cases, and whale and alligators rolled out on the floor, with the rushing and steaming water. The whale died pretty easily, having been pretty well used up before. A few great gasps and a convulsive flap or two of his mighty flukes were his expiring spasms.

One of the alligators was killed almost immediately by falling across a great fragment of shattered glass, which cut open his stomach and let out the greater part of his entrails to the light of day. The remaining alligator became involved in a controversy with an anaconda and joined the melee in the centre of the blazing apartment.

CLOSE OF THE THRILLING SCENE.

At this moment the floor, undermined by flame, gave way with an awful crash, and the living, struggling, howling, writhing mass was launched into a gulf of red and yellow fire, sending up a whirlwind of smoke, sparks and cinders to the very heavens.

The last object I saw was the polar bear, upon a white-hot square of sheet-iron, with all the hair burned from his hide, and standing stark and stiff, and rapidly baking brown.

Before the whale went down with the rest, a stream of spermaceti ran from his carcass down the sides of the building, taking fire and making impromtu candles on a colossal scale.

NEW YORK, July 14.—The Herald gives a nearly complete list of the losses by the fire of yesterday, estimating the same at $580,000, and the insurances at $250,000. The Herald building escaped without injury. Before the fire at the Museum was out, another commenced at West Forty-fourth street, destroying nine houses and turning out seventy-five families. Loss estimated at $50,000.

ANOTHER FIRE.

Seventy-Five Families Homeless.

[From the New York Herald.]

About half past two o'clock yesterday afternoon a fire broke out in the two-story frame building No. 317 West Forty-fourth street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, occupied by J. Ackerman & Son, manufacturers of the extract of coffee. The whole of the building, with the most part of the contents, was destroyed. Total loss seven thousand dollars; insured for five thousand dollars.

The fire extended to a frame building adjoining No. 19, occupied by Andrew Rieser, manufacturer of curled hair, which was destroyed. Stock and building estimated at $10,000; partly insured.

The flames next spread to the frame and brick buildings Nos. 331 and 323, occupied by John Reck as a cabinet maker's factory, which was also totally destroyed.—Loss estimated at $5,000. Insured for that amount in the Hamilton and Stuyvesant Insurance Companies.

The fire next spread east and destroyed the dwelling house No. 315, occupied by Jacob Ryer. Loss estimated at $3,000; insured.

From this building the two large four story brick tenement houses caught fire, Nos. 313 and 311. The first floor of one was occupied as a grocery store, the other by Fred. Schneider, as a bakery. The tenants got out a great many of their articles of furniture in a damaged state.—Both buildings were destroyed. Loss estimated at $30,000; most part insured.

Two frame dwellings in the rear of the adjoining lot, Nos. 307 and 309, were considerably damaged by fire.

LETTER PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

The President having been invited to attend the laying of the corner-stone of the Washington City Orphan Asylum, declined on account of official duties and sent the following letter:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13, 1865.

Mrs. S. P. Lee, First Directress, Washington City Protestant Orphan Asylum:

DEAR MADAM—I had hoped that I might be able to accept your kind invitation and attend the laying of the corner-stone of your new building, but my official duties will prevent. I beg you to convey to the ladies of your association the assurance of my deep interest in and sympathy with their work, and to the children under your charge I desire to express my sympathy with them at the great loss which they have suffered in being deprived of the care and affection of parents. Thrown so early, to a large extent, upon their own resources and efforts, they should feel their need of education, industrious and virtuous habits, and look to Him who is a father to the fatherless.

I am, madam, truly your friend,
ANDREW JOHNSON.

SILKS TO BE MORE COSTLY.

ADISEASE AMONG THE SILK WORMS.

The London Pall Mall Gazette says:

"The silk-breeders of France are, we are told, in a position of the greatest distress. A strange disease, which has reappeared among the worms from time to time—notably in 1688 and 1710—has, since 1860, recommenced its ravages, till the price of seed has risen ten fold, and the demand for mulberry leaves has so fallen off that the planters threaten to cut down the trees and use the lands for some profitable cultivation. The disease shows itself, according to a petition analyzed in the China Telegraph, just as the worm is about to begin the cocoon, so that the breeder has the trouble of rearing for nothing, and has, to purchase seed, as it were, in the dark.

Repeated experiments seem to prove that the only seed which can be trusted is that from Japan, and the breeders therefore pray the State to aid them by bringing home their supplies in men of-war. It seems probable that this request will be granted, and also that the evil which has spread through all silk-growing countries, except Japan, is not temporary, but may last as long as the potato rot and the odium. The real obstacle to silk growing seems to be the slow growth of the mulberry. The worms will live and work in most countries, but they want mulberry leaves, and nobody is willing to plant orchards which will not begin to bear for five and twenty years. It would not be a matter of surprise if silk in the next generation became as costly as under the Roman empire, and a silk dress as complete a test of wealth as it was two hundred years ago."

AN INCIDENT AT GETTYSBURG—A GALLANT COLOR-BEARER.—An incident connected with the battle of Gettysburg that has never yet been published, but certainly deserves to be, as it is the history of a gallant action that ought not to be unrewarded On the last day of the fight, when the rebels, massing some 18,000 men on our left centre, made a charge which, for desperate courage, is almost unparalleled in the history of warfare, but were beaten back with awful slaughter, leaving thousands of prisoners in our hands, and the field strewn thick with their wounded and dead, the 19th Massachusetts infantry was among those who bore the brunt of the onset. They were opposed directly by a Virginia regiment, and as the two forces came in contact with each other, and fought with bayonet and clubbed muskets, Thomas C. Jellison, the color bearer of the gallant 19th, having lost his sword in the melee, rushed up to the color-sergeant of the Virginians, and putting into play the flexor and biceps muscles of his right arm, knocked him down, and captured the flag, bearing it safely off the field. The State authorities of Massachusetts should hunt this man up and reward his brave conduct as it deserves.

The coquettish Mrs. I——— has just returned from a pleasure trip to Washington.—She only took with her forty two dresses, twenty shawls, nineteen bonnets, and two hundred pairs of gloves. "Surely," said a friend, who happened to be present when she was unpacking, "you did not take all that with you." "I merely took what was indispensable my dear. I left behind me all that was unfortunate." "Ah, yes, I understand, Jane—your husband."

The Boston Post is probably the only Democratic paper in the country that would call upon its readers to "remember that the ever-living principles of Democracy teach that the citizen owes no allegiance to any party, to the peril of his country."

APPEAL FOR AID.

Starvation in Spottsylvania Court House, Virginia.

SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE.

NECESSITY FOR PROMPT AID.

To Virginians and others, Citizens of New York, who sympathize with the sufferings of the destitute poor in Virginia:

The undersigned, late Justices of the Peace in and for the county of Spottsylvania, in the county of Virginia, respectfully submit to your attention the following facts:

Most of you remember the fact that Spottsylvania has been continuously the scene of extensive military operations from the spring of 1862 till the close of the war. Yet few of you will even realize, without ocular inspection, the devastation, impoverishment, and distress which the ravages of war have brought upon its people.

In 1862 a large proportion of its laboring blacks deserted their owners. In the winter of 1862, and in the spring of 1863, large armies, both Confederate and Federal, conducted campaigns upon its soil, and occupied different parts of the country for long periods. The fencing, the farming implements, the growing crops, the food on hand, and, in many cases, the farm buildings, were destroyed. The battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville were fought during this period. In the Spring of 1864 the immense armies of General Grant and of General Lee were fighting and manoeuvering for a month within its limits. Increased and most calamitous injuries were inflicted upon its people in this protracted occupation. Besides these more celebrated operations, there have been frequent and destructive cavalry raids and encampments in the county. The result may be briefly summed up:

The remnant of black labor which remained faithful, has been set free, and the small cropping attempted for 1865 seriously interfered with. More than one half of the arable lands of the country are lying waste. Its population have been obliged to seek for bread, for more than a year past, at points outside of and far distant from the county. The means of its people to buy bread are exhausted, and they have no power or resources left by which to recruit their means.

Before the close of the war the authorities of the county were aiding in the support of two hundred and eighty destitute families, embracing about 1,470 persons. The class of destitute and suffering poor is increasing daily. For obvious reasons the county authorities have no ability to extend them *any present help*. Yet if speedy help does not come from some quarter, actual starvation must fall upon many families.

The Federal authorities have furnished some food for the suffering, but the amount is wholly insufficient to relieve the pressing needs of the sufferers; nor is there any certainty as to how long this source of partial aid may be continued. If the alarming necessities of the present time, say a period of four months, can be supplied until the corn growing crops is gathered, then, and in the meantime, some plans of permanent relief may be devised and set to work.

Our purpose, in this connection, is simply to appeal to such of you as have been blessed by a merciful Providence, to give whatever your hearts may prompt you, in relieving this large class of suffering Virginians from the impending horrors of their helpless state.

We will simply add that any contributions, in money or food, which you may make through John L. Marye, or John L. Stansbury, will be faithfully and judiciously applied to the desired object.

LEWIS A. BOGGS, late Presiding Justice.
J. MERCER WALLER, J. P.
GEORGE P. GOODLOE, J. P.
JOHN L. ANDREWS, J. P.
L. W. DOBYNS, J. P.
NATHAN TALLEY, J. P.
S. S. ALSOP, J. P.
JOHN C. PETTUS, J. P.
F. C. BEVERLEY, J. P.

P. S.—John L. Stansbury can be communicated with at No 15 South street, over Franklin Bank, Baltimore, up to the 22d July, instant.

COURTING TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

Among the amusing reminiscences of those days, is the famous courtship of the Rev. Stephen Mix, at Whethersfield. He made a journey to Northampton in 1676, in search of a wife. He arrived at the house of the Rev. Solomon Stoddard's, informed him of the object of his visit, and that the pressure of home duties required the utmost dispatch. Mr. Stoddard took him into the room where his daughters were, and introduced him to Mary, Ester, Christina, Sarah, Rebekah, and Hannah, and then retired. Mr. Mix addressed Mary, the oldest daughter, said he had lately been settled at Whethersfield, and was desirous of obtaining a wife, and concluded by offering his heart and hand. She blushingly replied that so important a proposition required time for consideration. He replied that he was pleased that she asked for suitable time for reflection, and in order to afford her the needed opportunity to think of his proposal, he would step into the next room and smoke a pipe with her father, and she could report to him.

Having smoked his pipe and sent a message to Miss Mary that he was ready for her answer, she came in and asked for further time for consideration. He replied that she could reflect still longer on the subject, and send her answer by letter to Wethersfield. In a few weeks he received her reply, which is probably the most laconic epistle ever penned. Here is the model letter, which was soon followed by a wedding:

NORTHAMPTON, 1676.

REV. STEPHEN MIX: Yes.

MARY STODDARD.

The matrimonial mixture took place on the 1st of December, 1676, and proved to be compounded of the most congenial elements. Mix was pastor of that paradise of onions for forty-four years.

It is understood that the first message transmitted over the new Atlantic cable will be, the price of Confederate securities in London. The quotations are running down so fast, that it is necessary to transmit the report by telegraph at the earliest moment of there won't be any to transmit.

The aggregate value of real and personal property owned in New York is $664,756,356, against $634,615,993 for 1864. The deficit is caused by the decision of the Supreme Court, exempting United States securities from taxation. The latter were listed in 1864.

Henry A. Wise has made application to the military authorities for a restoration of his former estate near Norfolk, with rather a poor prospect of success. Gen. Butler put up Wise as a candidate for Governor.

At a church in Dorchester, England, a while ago, a swallow been in possession of the chancel, and the offici