BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

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

VOLUME LI.—NUMBER 40. BALTIMORE, THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 17, 1865. PRICE TWO CENTS.

Latest News by Telegraph TO THE BALTIMORE CLIPPER:

THE NEW YORK BANK FAILURES.

THE KETCHUM DEFALCATION.

FURTHER PARTICULARS

HOUSATONIC RAILROAD DISASTER

Names of the Killed and Wounded

SCENES AT THE PLACE OF THE ACCIDENT

FROM WASHINGTON

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The President has made the following appointments: Newton S. Ward, Governor and ex-officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs of Dacotah Territory; Edward B. Taylor, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northern Superintendency. Major General Curtis, Brig. Gen. H. H. Sibley, Henry W. Reid and Oram Guernsey have been appointed commissioners to negotiate, under the instructions of the Secretary of the Interior, a treaty or treaties with the several tribes of Sioux and Cheyenne Indians.

The President has also appointed Phineas J. Horwitz, of Maryland, Chief of Medicine and Surgery of the United States Navy to be Visitor of the Government Hospitals for the Insane; Hon. Robert Valkenburgh, of New York, to be acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs during the absence of Judge Cooke with the Indian Commission; Samuel A. Pancoast has been appointed Tax Commissioner for the District of Georgia.

PARDONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Ex-Senator of the United States, Benjamin Fitzpatrick, formerly of Alabama, has, among others, just been pardoned by the President.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Aug. 15.—The steamer Thomas Collyer ran on an old wreck in the James River, near Richmond, yesterday, sustaining severe damage. She left for Baltimore last evening, for repairs. Her pumps were sufficient to keep her clear of water.

The sale of government horses and mules at Camp Hamilton, yesterday, was very satisfactory. One hundred mules were sold at an average of $73 28.

The steamer Columbia reached here today from Richmond, with the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiment, en route for home via Baltimore. This regiment was formerly commanded by Col. Spear, but is now in command of Col. F. A. Stratton, who has served with the regiment since its organization.

Brigadier Gen. Pennypacker, who was severely wounded at Fort Fisher, was today removed from the Chesapeake Hospital to Norfolk. The building occupied by the Chesapeake Hospital was before the war a Female College, and it is now being cleaned out previous to being turned over to its original owners.

The steamer Guide, 48 hours from Savannah, bound to New York with the 12th Connecticut regiment, homeward bound, to be mustered out, reached here to-day. Gen. H. W. Birge also arrived here in the Guide.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE—FURTHER PARTICULARS.

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—The New York Herald's special from Heart's Content on the 14th instant, says the captain of the Terrible informed the captain of the First Fruit that the cable parted on the 21, and that the buoy was the mark where the cable was last seen. The captain of the First Fruit is not certain of the exact locality, having had no observations for several days.

We do not give up the expedition as a failure, as when last seen the steamers were endeavoring to discover the location of the buoys, showing that they have not abandoned all hope of eventually laying the cable. Mr. Markey, the superintendent of the Newfoundland line, is yet hopeful that the Great Eastern will arrive in a few days, with the cable all right.

I cannot describe the deep feeling of disappointment that prevails among the people in general. The general feeling is that the Atlantic cable is a thing never to be accomplished. At the time of the breaking of the cable it was about six hundred miles distant from the coast of Newfoundland.

Another vessel arrived at Harbor Grace last Friday, and reported that she saw a large buoy two miles distant from the vessel.

The captain of the schooner reports that he asked the Captain of the Terrible whether they considered the cable recoverable, and the answer was, "Could not say."

THE NEW YORK FINANCIAL FRAUDS.

NEW YORK, Aug. 16.—Peter R. Mumford, who was reported as having failed on Monday, was arrested to-day charged with having defrauded Greenleaf, Morris & Co., by means of worthless checks, for $28,000 on the Mechanics' Bank, given in payment on Saturday for $20,000 in gold. On presentation of the check it was found there were no funds in the bank. Mumford was committed to the tombs in default of $30,000 bail to await an examination to-morrow. Later information states that there is no ground for the report of another failure in circulation this afternoon.

EMIGRATION TO NORTH CAROLINA.

NEWBERN, Aug. 12.—Northern emigration to North Carolina has already set in. People are arriving in the State by thousands from all quarters.

The health of Newbern and the rest of the State was never better than at present.

NATIONAL TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

HARRISBURG, Aug. 16.—The National Teachers' Convention re-assembled here this morning. Five hundred delegates were present. Governors Curtin and Bradford, of Maryland, and General Geary were invited to seats in the convention, and made appropriate speeches. The members of the convention will visit the Gettysburg battle-field to morrow. This afternoon's session will be devoted to the reading of essays on educational subjects.

Among the papers read were the following:—"The Measure of School Teaching," by W. N. Barring, of Troy, N. Y; "Normal Schools should be established and maintained in each State at the public expense," by Professor R. Edwards, President of the Normal University, Illinois. The paper elicited many complimentary notices. The Secretary read letters from Dr. S. Wayland, of Rhode Island; Dr. Thomas Hill, President of Harvard University; Major Gen. Doubleday, and others, expressing their regrets at being unable to be present at the meeting of the Association.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AT DENVER.

DENVER, August 14.—The Constitutional Convention, now in session here, voted unanimously that it is expedient to form a State.

THE GREAT EASTERN NOT ARRIVED.

ASPY BAY, Aug. 16—9 P. M.—We have no signs of anything from the Great Eastern.

GEN. SHERMAN AT ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS, August 14.—Gen. Sherman arrived in this city yesterday morning.

From Savannah.

THE AFFAIR AT THE PULASKI HOUSE—PUNISHMENT OF THE OFFENDERS.

A Savannah correspondent gives the following particulars of the late rencontre at the Pulaski House, before referred to. He says:

It was occasioned by some insulting and disloyal remarks made publicly by J. D. Howell, a brother-in-law of Jeff. Davis. Howell talked very imprudently. His remarks were partly generally disloyal, and also personally insulting to Captain George B. Hussey, of the 150th New York, who was standing by. Captain Hussey knocked down the offender, and also had a personal rencontre with Major S. J. Short, an Englishman by birth, and formerly of the rebel army, but who resigned before the evacuation of Richmond. Captain Hussey also encountered one or two other combatants, but got the best of the rencontre. The result was that the parties were arrested, and the following is a part of the record of the investigations by the Provost Marshal to day:

United States vs. S. J. Short, charged with insulting a United States officer, on or about the 4th day of August, 1865, in the city of Savannah, Ga. Plea, not guilty. Ordered, that the respondant be confined in the city guard house until the general commanding the sub-district orders his release.

United States vs. J. D. Howell, charged with seditious language and insulting a United States officer, on or about the 4th day of August, 1865, at Savannah, Ga.—Ordered to be fined $250, or be confined in the county jail six months, and to be sent out of the district.

These two specimens of unconquered chivalry are now undergoing the punishment of their imprudence.

THE TRIAL OF JEFF DAVIS

A well-informed correspondent at Washington writes us that Jefferson Davis will be tried before a civil court, and probably at Richmond, before the United States Circuit Court there.

We have reason to believe, further, that the trial of Davis will not be begun until that of Wertz is concluded. The friends and counsel of Wertz hope, it is said, to clear him, by proving that he was acting under the authority and orders of Davis and the Rebel Secretary of War. If they can produce satisfactory proofs of this, of course that would furnish important testimony for use upon the trial of Davis.

This and other circumstances are likely to postpone the trial of Davis for some months. It is probable that the Rebel archives, captured after the surrender of Johnston, and now under Dr Lieber's charge at Washington, will be thoroughly examined for documentary evidence before the trial is begun. Of course if Davis is tried in Richmond, a new indictment will have to be drawn and found by the Grand Jury of that district. At present he has been indicted only in the District of Columbia. The new indictment will probably arraign him on other counts than levying war; it will perhaps contain a count charging him with the slow and deliberate murder of prisoners of war.—*N. Y. Post.*

SECRETARY SEWARD.—A correspondent of the Newark Daily Advertiser, who saw Secretary Seward at Cape May, writes:

"On entering into conversation I found all that suavity of manner and kindness of heart which have ever been the leading characteristics of him throughout all his public life. He said he felt himself greatly improved by his visit to the sea shore; that his health and strength were gradually being restored. I found that his mental faculties and intellectual vigor were all as clear and comprehensive as in his best days, and the same hopeful confidence of the permanent establishment of the authority of the Government, and the same abiding faith in republican institutions still animated him. I learn that the activity of his mental powers, during the most critical period of the ordeal through which he has passed, has greatly retarded his recovery; and one great benefit ensured by his residence at Cape Island is his entire freedom from the cares of public life."

TRADE WITH NORTH CAROLINA—Is gradually opening. Every arrival of the steamers Clarion and Gazelle bring as more or less of cotton, turpentine, tar, rags and shingles, and advices from the interior bring us the gratifying assurance that the manufacturers and merchants of the Old North State are exerting themselves towards restoring their former profitable trade connection with our city. We urge upon our merchants the importance of looking after the rich products from this prolific source.—*Norfolk Day Book.*

THE TROOPS IN MEXICO.—A correspondent of the Montreal Citizen, writing from Matamoras, says that the quality of the French troops and those of the Austrian legion is very good, but that of the Mexicans is very poor, and the officers the worst part of the force.—The men are quite Indian in look, but not of the brave Northern Indian race. In a fight they would throw down their arms and run away. The negro troops of the United States army would whip them.

MERCHANTS AND BROKERS.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has just decided, contrary to the previous ruling of the office, that where goods are sold through brokers, the tax must be paid by *both* the merchant and broker; by the former in the shape of license tax at the rate of one dollar per thousand of sales, and by the latter on monthly returns, at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents on every thousand dollars of sales.

At the great musical festival in Germany no less than 21,000 musicians were gathered together under 700 banners.

Maine Politics.

THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION—ENDORSEMENT OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

PORTLAND, Aug. 15.—The Democratic State Convention met at 10:30 this morning. Paul S. Merrilly, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, called upon Mr. E. Pillsbury, of Farmington, to act as temporary Chairman.

Mr. Pillsbury addressed the meeting, and congratulated them (the delegates) upon the restoration of peace. He said if the principles of the Democratic party had prevailed there would have been no war. But notwithstanding the great bloodshed, peace was again restored, and a great responsibility now rests upon the Democracy.

An attempt was being made to destroy State sovereignty, which the Democracy must frustrate. The policy of the Republican party can only be forced upon the South at the point of the bayonet, and but for one man that policy would have been adopted at all hazards, and that is the present President of the United States. [Great applause.] For this we owe him a debt of gratitude. The Democratic party, which is the real power of the Union, seeks ascendancy not for power, but for the good and welfare of the whole country.

John R. Hutchison, of Paris, and John Varney, of Bangor, were appointed Secretaries of the Convention.

The Committee on Credentials was then appointed, and Vice Presidents, one from each county in the State, were chosen.—The Committee on Credentials reported the whole number of delegates present as 574.

The temporary organization was then made permanent, and a committee of one from each county appointed to prepare a set of resolutions.

The Maine Democratic Convention met again at two o'clock. The Hon. Biron Bradbury presented the report of the committee on resolutions.

The first expresses profound gratitude to God that the war is over.

The second resolves that we should cherish the memory of the fallen dead.

The third asserts that, with the close of the war, its bloody and barbarous spirit should be banished from our midst, and hatred and vengeance should yield to Christian charity and magnanimity.

The fourth asserts that it is the duty of the Federal Government to re establish at the earliest moment and with the least possible interference the true constitutional relations between itself and the late revolted States.

The fifth resolution resolves that the Democracy of Maine reassert the fundamental principles of equal and exact justice to all men of all nations, and entangling alliances with none.

The sixth resolution resolves that the ballot is the right of every American citizen, to be restricted only as the public safety demands, and that each State possesses the Constitutionally organized right of specifying the qualifications of electors.

The seventh pledges the party to demand equal taxation.

The eight asserts that the sums advanced by towns, cities, &c., are a legitimate charge upon the Federal Government.

The ninth resolves that banishing narrow considerations, we will cordially support Andrew Johnson in the policy he has taken towards placing the Rebel States in their proper situation, and harmonizing conflicting questions.

The tenth congratulates the whole country that among the acts of the President we find him returning to the first principles of our Government, in refusing to accept gratuities.

The eleventh resolves that the assassination of President Lincoln was an act of barbarism.

James Howard, of Portland, was unanimously nominated for Governor, and the Convention adjourned *sine die.*

A LOYAL MEETING IN VIRGINIA.

The loyal men of Montgomery county, Va., held a large meeting at Christiansburg on the 7th instant, Paris Taylor presiding, and adopted the following:

"Whereas, We have been informed that an impression prevails among the authorities of the federal government, and among the people of the Northern States, that the people of Virginia are inclined to turbulence, and violence and resistance against the government; and whereas it is important to the speedy restoration of peace and of civil government that the true state of feeling and temper existing in the South should be fully understood,

Be it therefore resolved, That the impression so existing in regard to the conduct and sentiments of the people of Virginia is, we believe, manifestly erroneous, and does gross injustice at least to this section of the State

"Resolved, That the people of Montgomery county are disposed to accept the issue of the late struggle as a final settlement of the question of the maintenance of the Union, and of the authority of the federal government over the States of the South. They are determined to discountenance any and all efforts to impair that authority—to yield a faithful obedience to the Constitution and laws of the United States, and to cultivate peaceful and friendly sentiments toward the people of the North. They regard the abolition of slavery as a settled question, in no way to be controverted or contested. And they hope and believe that the grounds of amnesty and strife between the two sections having been removed, the country, under the auspices of a common government, may realize the hopes and predictions of the founders of the republic.

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions and the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to His Excellency Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, and to His Excellency Francis H. Pierpoint, Governor of Virginia, and that they be published in the Richmond and Lynchburg papers."

THE FUTURE PROSPERITY OF BALTIMORE.—The editor of the Lynchburg Virginian, who lately visited this city, remarks:

Baltimore, we think, is destined to be one of the leading commercial centres of the South and the Union. Possessing great geographical advantages, together with the enterprise, energy and enlightened and liberal public spirit which characterize its merchants and other business men, the career before it will inevitably be one of high prosperity and success.—We understand that the most liberal, kindly and generous feelings are manifested by a great majority of the business men of the city towards towards the South, and our merchants will doubtless find it to their interest to open up business relations with them—in the full conviction that they will be fairly dealt with and have all the accommodations afforded them possible.

In another article, the editor says:

We would, in a general way, commend the claims of our sister city (Baltimore) upon Virginians. The hands of these people were ever "open as day to melting charity" to the appeals of all Southerners who were in distress. And they are still rendering timely assistance to our agriculturists. They deserve a grateful recognition at our hands.

The planters of some portions of South Carolina having forgotten that the negroes have lately been freed, have taken to their old tricks of applying the lash to those who were lately their slaves. General Van Wyck, commanding the Westmoreland district, has consequently deemed it necessary to imprison some of the offending chivalry, and to issue an order warning all others of them against similar conduct.

THE DISASTER ON THE HOUSATONIC RAILROAD.

The telegraph yesterday briefly announced the occurrence of a terrible accident on the Housatonic railroad, by which several passengers lost their lives, and a number of others were seriously wounded. We herewith append a list of the

KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Mrs. E. O. Wakeman, of Westport, who was recently married, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Henry Lamberton, of New York, daughter of Robert Spencer, Esq., of that city, were instantly killed; also Miss D. A. Smith, whose residence is unknown; a man named Crofut, Thomas O'Brien, a boy six years old, and another boy of the same age, (names unknown,) Mrs. Thomas Thorne, of New York. Mrs. Cahill and an old lady, have since died.

Miss Thorne and Miss Cabell were scalded. Miss Cabell has since died.

Charles Davidson, of Milford, was scalded, bruised in the head, left arm and leg.

Miss Eliza L. Tucker, of No. 127 W. Twenty-third street, New York, was slightly bruised.

Mrs. Richard Marshall, of Bridgeport, was severely scalded.

Mrs. H. B. Taylor, of Bridgeport, was scalded and otherwise injured.

George W. Mansfield, of the 2d Connecticut heavy artillery, and a native of Falls Village, was badly scalded and is unable to answer questions. He had his discharge and $280 in money in his pocket.

S. B. Denning, of No. 44 Morton street, N. York, had his hand and foot scalded and face badly cut.

Juliet Hurlburt, of Milton, Conn.; had her head badly bruised and is injured internally.

Mrs. John H. Hurlburt, of Norwalk, badly scalded.

Mrs. Egan, an elderly lady, of Newtown, was badly scalded, and had one leg broken.

Timothy Farrell, of Hawleyville, Conn., had his foot badly crushed.

Maria Prouty, of Twenty-seventh street, New York, had a leg broken. She lives with a Mrs. Dunn, in New York, and is a servant girl.

James Ward, brakesman, had his face badly cut, and is hurt inwardly.

Mr. Larned, of Philadelphia, was bruised and scalded.

Mrs. Mallory, of Bridgeport, was slightly bruised.

Mr. C. Pattison, express agent, was slightly bruised.

Mr. Charles Hunt, the president of the road, happened to be on the train, and although he was considerably cut and bruised about the feet, yet, regardless of his own injuries, he was indefatigable in his exertions to assist the wounded.

Captain Plum was somewhat bruised but went to Bridgeport, and immediately returned with a special train attended by Drs. Nash, Bennette, Hubbard, Norton, and Burnett, all of whom at once gave their united energies to alleviate the distressed.

The citizens of Bridgeport and the people residing near the scene of the catastrophe, were promptly in attendance to relieve the wounded in every way which sympathy and kindness could suggest.—The trinkets and mementoes of the persons killed were taken possession of by Hon. Clapp Spooner, of this city.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT—HORRIBLE SCENES AT THE PLACE OF ACCIDENT.

[From the Bridgeport Farmer.]

A terrible and fatal accident took place, about 11 o'clock this morning, on the Housatonic Railroad, three miles and a half from the depot in this city, by which a number of lives were lost, and a large number of persons injured—some fatally, others slightly. Early this morning an extra train going up started on time, about 10 o'clock. When near Trumbull the engine broke down, and as the passenger train which leaves this city at 10:30 A. M. came up, the engine was hitched on to the rear of the freight train, and both trains were backing down to this city, there being no turnout short of the depot. When about midway between the paper mill and the Pequonnock Mills, with no precautions taken to prevent such an accident, no flag or signal out, and no man in advance of the backing train, the rear car was run into by a single engine, the "Fairfield," proceeding North at a high rate of speed, on a sort of trial trip.

The engine cut straight into the car, tearing and rending all before it, and stopping almost at the extreme forward part of it. One man, name unknown, was impaled through the bowels on some portion of the machinery, and wedged so tightly in his horrible situation on the hot engine as to render it impossible to remove him. Of course he was dead. The escaping steam scalded a number of the wounded passengers horribly. One man, three women, a boy and a girl, were dead at 12 o'clock, when our reporter visited the scene, and there were three women who could not live, so badly were they injured.

The scene at the place of slaughter is described as horrible. The car and engine were a complete wreck, from which the wounded and dying were taken in a helpless condition. The only house near by was a small one belonging to a German. The wounded who could help themselves or be helped were taken to the shade of the woods close at hand.

At about noon a wrecking train was dispatched to the scene of accident, conveying Drs. Hubbdar, Bennett, Nash and Burritt, to attend to the injured.

We hope there will be a rigid examination into the causes of this *murder*, for it is nothing else, and on the head of some persons rests the responsibility of this fearful crime. "Not any to blame" will not answer now. The accident is the result of criminal and culpable carelessness.

From Texas.

ARRIVAL OF GEN. SHERIDAN—HIS ERRAND AND TIME OF STAY—SPIES AROUND—SANITARY—COTTON STATISTICS—A NEW HOTEL—THE WEATHER.

[*Special to the New York Tribune.*]

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, July 25.—Gen. Sheridan and staff came up to this point yesterday from Galveston, and were received by General Steele, commanding the Department of the Rio Grande. On the staff are Col. M. D. Small, Col. Sawtelle, Lieut. Col. Gillespie, Major Gillespie, Major Parsons, and Major Kiss.

This visit of Gen. Sheridan to the Headquarters of the Department of the Rio Grande is only one of an unimportant nature. He will remain at this place two days, and will, during that time, take a look at the Quartermaster's Department and the Sanitary arrangements here.

At present everything will be found very quiet by the General, and he will only have some sanitary matters to claim his attention. From the other side of the Rio Grande he will hear of nothing to break in upon the general aspect of tranquil vigilance observed on both sides of the river.

This place and Matamoras are both full of spies, who report to each other's headquarters anything of importance that takes place on the river.

The sanitary state of the army of the Rio Grande is fair, in spite of bad water, a burning sun, and an atmosphere filled with dust. "Dango fever" is prevalent. This is also called "bone fever," and consists of pains in one's bones, which renders a man miserable enough while the attack lasts. The number of vacant buildings here afford some good hospitals, which, it must be said, are tolerably well filled.

A few hundred bales of cotton, in bad shipping order, have been hauled here from the interior, and will go down the river as soon as a boat can be had.

The New York Failures.

THE KETCHUM DEFALCATION—ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS.

[From the New York Post.]

Many excited and false rumors are afloat with respect to the forgery of gold certificates issued by Edward B. Ketchum to the amount of two and a half millions of dollars. The truth, as nearly as we can ascertain it, is as follows:

The gold brokers some time ago adopted the Bank of New York as their depository, receiving from it certificates, which were registered and signed in due form by two of the officers. These certificates circulate from hand to hand like a bank bill in the channels where they are used, and may remain out an indefinite time—They are all of the denomination of five thousand dollars. It was discovered yesterday that a number of forged certificates were in use as collateral to loans obtained, and circumstances made it manifest that Mr. Edward B. Ketchum, of the house of Ketchum, Son & Co., had issued them from a book of blanks similar to the genuine forms. Five hundred of the blanks are missing, and it is presumed, though not positively known, that each one was filled up for five thousand dollars. If so, the total forgery of certificates amounts to two and a half millions.

The forgeries began to be presented to Mr. Graham, the broker of Edward Ketchum, yesterday, and, with the hope of getting rid of them, he paid, as we learn, about two hundred and eighty thousand dollars of them, at which point he stopped, finding the amount greater than he anticipated. There the case rests.—Mr. Ketchum is not to be found. The house of Ketchum, Son & Co. is not otherwise involved than by his being one of the partners. We learn that it has been suspended, which it would do, of course, until the exact truth is ascertained.

None of the forged certificates have been paid by the Bank of New York, and we have not been able to learn of a single bank that holds any as collateral security for loans. If the banks do hold any they have margins, and the responsibility of the borrowers, to fall back upon. It is not at all likely that they will suffer so as to interrupt their regular business. The shock is distributed mostly among private bankers and speculators in that particular business of gold dealing. There is no ground, therefore, for apprehending any general disturbance of the markets outside of Wall street.

The forgery is very clumsily executed, and would have been discovered instantly if any of the certificates had got into circulation. But they were adroitly used as collateral security only and hence escaped detection.

[Mr. Morris Ketchum, pending the investigation into the affairs of the firm, has ordered all drafts arriving by mail from depositors in the country, to be placed in bank to the credit of the senders.

In its money article on Tuesday afternoon's issue, the Post says:

The failure of Morris Ketchum & Co. has produced a more profound sensation than any similar event which has occurred for some years. Attended as it is by the flight of one of the junior members of the firm, E. B. Ketchum, who has abstracted securities to a very large amount, besides draging out of the bank as much as possible of the available funds of the firm.

On the discovery of these facts, Mr. Morris Ketchum this morning ordered payment to be stopped, and in a few days he will be ready to submit to the creditors a proposition for liquidation. Meanwhile all remittances are deposited in bank to the credit of the remitters.

The large capital of the firm and the wealth of its senior partner render it probable that the loss to the creditors will not be so heavy as was at first reported. It is as yet premature to attempt to state the amount of the defalcation, but it is variously estimated at from two to four millions of dollars

The failure of Mr. Charles Graham, from his connection with Ketchum & Co., was announced this morning.

The Commercial's money article says:

The failure of two of the most prominent operators on the street, under such peculiar circumstances, produces a general mistrust. The money market feels the effect. Some are calling in loans; others refuse to lend until it is more apparent to what this condition of things will lead.

There is a general suspicion that the excitements of late months have produced rottenness in other quarters, and that we may now have a general clearing out.

DWARFISM IN ANIMALS.—A very curious paper upon the origin of dwarfism in animals has been written by M. Dareste, and read before the French Academy. The cause of dwarfism the writer supposes to be an accelerated development. His experiments were conducted upon hen eggs which were undergoing incubation. Of a number of eggs which were being hatched, some underwent their completion more rapidly than others, and these M. Dareste examined. On the 34 June, at two o'clock, he opened the shell of an egg which had been placed for incubation at ten o'clock on the morning of the 21. The embryo had been some time dead, so that the entire duration of its life could not have extended over more than from twenty-four to twenty-six hours. Nevertheless, it had attained a condition of development, which, under ordinary circumstances, must have taken sixty hours to arrive at. The left side of the head was bent upon the vitellus, though the rest of the body had its ventral surface applied to the vitelline mass. This precocious embryo was exceedingly small, and its measurements were far below those of ordinary embryos which have attained a similar degree of development. M. Dareste, employing the expressions of M. Isidore Geoffrey Saint-Hilaire, shows that embryonic phenomena are of two kinds; first, the formation of definite organs from a structureless mass—this is development; and, second, their increase of their organ—growth. If the latter process be in excess of power, a giant is produced; but if the former, a dwarf is the result.

THE WHITE HOUSE.—An unusually large crowd was in attendance at the White House to day, completely obstructing the passage between the apartments of the President and the office of the Executive Clerks. It becoming evident that all could not be received to-day singly, at about 1 o'clock the doors of the President's room were thrown open and everybody admitted. The throng filled the apartment, and crowded upon the President in an inexcusable manner, pressing him and his secretary back into a narrow space only unoccupied because of the barrier presented by the table and desk. The atmosphere of the room soon became almost stifling, causing many to withdraw. So long as visitors disregard the ordinary proprieties of society, care for the President's health as well as personal comfort, requires that such receptions should be not frequently given.—*Star, yesterday.*

THE WERTZ TRIAL.—The trial of Wertz, the Andersonville prison keeper, postponed from yesterday until to day, has been still further postponed, and it is not now definitely known how soon the case will be taken up. The Commission will, in the meantime, meet at their rooms, on 14th street, and adjourn from day to day until everything is in readiness for the trial.—*Star, 16th.*

The alarming increase of destructive insects in the last few years, both in this country and in Europe, is attributed in a great measure to the relentless war waged by boys and sportsmen against the small birds which feed on those insects. A single greedy robin devours, in one season, insects enough to ruin a garden full of currant bushes. The farmers have allowed their best friends to be killed, and now they are reaping the consequences.

A tombstone at Alexandria, Va., contains the following inscription:

"Erected to the memory of Eleanor, the ninth wife of Mr. Daniel Wren, who departed this life on the 8th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1798, aged 27 years."

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Severely Injured on the Railroad.—On Tuesday morning, shortly after 7 o'clock, as the passenger train which left Washington at 6 o'clock for this city was passing Elkridge Landing, twelve miles from this city, the engine struck a man named William F. Chandler, an employee of the Telegraph Company, who was standing on the track, and knocked him off, cutting his head, dislocating the bones of his left hand, injuring his spine, and, it is thought, inflicting internal injury. He was engaged on the track with a number of others arranging the poles and wires. He had previously left the track to avoid the train that was en route for Washington, and upon returning to his work again appeared confused, and did not heed the engineer's whistle of warning of the train coming east. He was brought to this city and conveyed to the Lombard street infirmary, where Professor Smith and Dr. Beckenbaugh, the resident physician, rendered him medical aid. He is thirty years of age, and has a family residing in Alexandria. At last accounts he was in a favorable condition.

Holliday Street Theatre.—Last night's production of the Ice Witch was again witnessed by a crowded house, and the predominant features greeted with more than usual applause. The Fowler Sisters somehow understand how to lead in popularity, and we only can say they deserve it, for where beauty and skill combine, who can resist the charm? We also mention meritoriously Miss Lavering, Mrs. Wilkins and Mr. Bishop. Of the other actors, some seem as if the frigid character of their *roles* had imparted to them rather a little too much stiffness; also the machinery lacks yet desirable promptness and smoothness, that the effect of the really beautiful scenery and tableaux may not suffer by it.—However, the whole is acknowledged as an unprecedented success.

Accidentally Drowned.—Coroner Thomas held yesterday an inquest over the body of a German by the name of John Myers, about 35 years old, who was found drowned in the Basin, near the corner of Lee and Light sts., on Tuesday night. It seems he was somewhat intoxicated, when he left about 10 P. M., the house of Mr. Henry Woolring, No. 307 Light street, to proceed to the Boston steamers' wharf and missed his way. Officers Deems and Smith heard him fall into the water about 10½ o'clock, and tried to save him but in vain. The body was recovered about an hour afterwards by Mr. John E. Abbott. Verdict—"Accidentally drowned."

Leap from a Window—Seriously Injured.—Yesterday morning, about five o'clock, a man named John Gallagher, a discharged soldier, boarding at the house of John Sherry, corner of Albemarle street and Eastern avenue, while under the influence of mania, jumped from the second story to the front pavement. Policeman Jump and other citizens ran to his assistance, and took him into the house; where it was ascertained that the bone of his left leg, above the ancle was fractured, the right knee dislocated, and in addition he had received internal injury of a serious character. Dr. O'Donnell was called to attend him.

Another Shooting Affair.—On Tuesday night there was what is called an "Irish wake," in Raborg street, near Poppleton, where liquor was freely imbibed. Two parties, John McLaughlin and Jerry Daily, began to quarrel, and finally Jerry Daily shot McLaughlin, inflicting a serious but it is hoped not mortal wound. Jerry Daily was arrested upon the charge of shooting with intent to kill McLaughlin, and John Daily as being accessory to it. Both were committed for Court by Justice Dryden. The wounded man is suffering, yet not considered in danger of life.

Sales of Property.—Samuel H. Gover, auctioneer, sold on the premises, on the northwest corner of Pace and King street, north of Pratt, a lot having a front of 17 feet and depth of 66 feet 6 inches, improved by a three story back building, subject to a ground rent of $60. Purchased for $3,225, by Mr. Stephen H. Irvin. Also a lot on the north side of Lombard street, west of Osmond, having a front of 12 feet and depth of 40 feet to a two foot alley; improved by three story brick dwelling and store, No. 10, subject to a ground rent of $102. Purchased for $600 by Mr. George Spence.

Concert at Patterson's Park.—Professor Drems' cornet band will give a grand concert at Patterson's Park this evening, at seven o'clock. The following is the programme of the occasion:—All Hall to the Jerry Schultz Polka; The Moon is Beaming o'er the Wave; Rose de Mai Waltz; Belgian Nation Air; Tramp, Tramp March; Governor Fenton's March; Come where my Love Lies Dreaming; Mocking Bird Quick Step; Potpourri from Merthe; General Sigel's March; Home Again Quick Step; Star Spangled Banner.

Arrested.—On Tuesday night Andrew Thomas, charged with shooting and killing Dr. F. A. Kuehner, was committed to jail for trial. Henry Lirker, charged with the larceny of two cows and two calves, the property of Mr. William Weith, was held to bail by Justice Dryden. Sarah Whalen, charged with stealing a breastpin, valued at $15, belonging to Mrs. Mary Walton, No. 3 Ploughman street. Charles Norwood, charged with assaulting and beating Sarah Carroll, No. 73 Chestnut street, was held to bail.

Maryland Institute.—The brilliant triumph of Angelo and the Naturecamera is well deserved, and all who have witnessed the combined entertainment attest its popularity, moral teaching and its attractiveness. This is itself from them by both hands; then by one hand, then by the other, then by one foot, then by both, throwing himself into the most incredible positions, twisting his body through his arms, then through his legs; in fact, going through a series of evolutions that would be wonderful enough if performed on terra firma; but which, performed at such an altitude, with nothing but the almost invisible cords between him and the abyss of emptiness below him, seem almost superhuman. And as though all this were not sufficiently appalling, he next hies his pole across the cable, hooks the hoops on to the pole, and goes through the same set of performances, hanging head downwards below the pole, which seems to shiver with every movement of the acrobat."

The writer says Blondin is perfectly aware of the fearfully perilous nature of his performances, fully expects to be killed some day or other while engaged in them, and never goes up to his perilous perch without saying to himself, "Who knows if this be not the last time I may go on the wire?"

THE CAUSES OF RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.—A veteran railway engineer of acknowledged skill, said some years since to a young brother of the profession: "Within ten years you will hear of frequent and fatal accidents on our American railways. They will increase to an extent which will be absolutely appalling. The wood and iron on which the wheels of the trains run last but a certain time. At present they are mostly new, and the danger of which I speak does not exist. They will continue to look sound to the eye until their texture has been changed by constant hammering of the heavily loaded wheels, and then they will suddenly give way. The terrible warning the companies will have of their unsoundness, with the exception of the length of time they have been in use, will be some accident to the trains that pass over them. But the time which has elapsed since they were laid will not be regarded. The desire for profit will induce the railway companies to leave them on the track as long as the superintendent finds no defect to the eye, and thus disaster and the discovery of their defective condition will occur at the same moment." What was predicted six years ago is beginning to take place.

A SINGULAR CEREMONY.—A singular ceremony has been recently performed at Brussels. This was a formal assignment of the hotel of the late Antoine Wiertz, the celebrated Belgian historical painter, to a department of the Belgian Ministers. This was in the presence of the Minister of the Interior and of Foreign Affairs. A large number of eminent persons assembled in the studio of the deceased to witness the transfer of the heart of the artist by his executor, M. Fetis, to the deputies from Dinant.

An effort is on foot to make Lafayette, Indiana, the best manufacturing city in the State. The scheme is to tap the Tippecanoe river about twelve miles from that city, and bring the water by a canal of sufficient capacity to be navigable for boats, and form water power along the bluffs, on the opposite side of the river.

Larceny of a Sailboat—Attempt at Escape.—A few days ago two men, named George Thomas and Wm. Duffy, were arrested by constable Herold and taken before Justice Dorsey, on the charge of having stolen a sailboat, valued at $75, the property of Saml. J. Currier and Martin Heigel, of Perrivillo, Cecil county. The Justice committed them to await the action of the Grand Jury. On reaching the jail, and soon after being admitted within the gate, Thomas, before he was given into the custody of the Deputy Warden, made a dash into the street and ran with great speed through various streets and alleys, followed by constable Herold, and finally jumped several fences of the yards in the rear of Baren street. Officer Leach joined in the pursuit, and as Thomas was leaping over a fence by which he would have been enabled to reach Jones' Falls, compelled him to stop, by the presentation of a revolver and a threat that he would shoot him, and give himself up. He was taken back, and with his accomplice, whom the officers at the jail had secured, was lodged in a safe place to await trial.

Robbery of a Sutler.—Brief mention was made in the edition of yesterday to the fact that complaint had been made by Mr. Starr, sutler of the 45th Pennsylvania Regiment, that his store in Alexandria had been robbed of goods valued at over $5,000. Mr. Morris Watkins the Chief Clerk of Mr. Starr, states that the goods taken did not amount in value to any thing like the above amount, and that the matter in dispute between him and Mr. Starr, was altogether in reference to his salary—he claiming that there is due him over $300. He retains in his possession two boxes or rather cases, which he is willing and did offer to restore to Mr. Starr, on the payment of the sum stated. It is learned that detective Houck arrested Watkins at the instance of Starr, on the charge of robbery, but the Justice dismissed the case, as it was not technically a transaction to be prosecuted as a criminal matter. A considerable portion of the goods, 14 large and 28 small boxes of tobacco were recovered by the officer here and shipped to the order of Mr. Starr in Philadelphia.

Marriage in a Court Clerks' Office.—On Tuesday an occurrence of rather a novel character, as respects the place, happened in the office of James D. Lowry, Esq., Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas. Charles Hameyer and Anna Thocker, natives of Germany, appeared together at the office, for the purpose of procuring the license by which each would be made supremely happy in this world if in after years either of them did not sue for a divorce. Rev. Andrew B. Cross, the little alligator advocate of temperance chanced to be in the office, procuring the data for a vigorous assault upon the sellers of lager and liquor. Ascertaining the object of the visit of the couple, he immediately proposed to tie the nuptial knot, which offer was accepted by the couple. The ceremony was finished with an injunction that the groom should refrain from ardent spirits. The fee received by the reverend gentleman was $2, after paying which Mr. and Mrs. Hameyer left the office, and repaired to their home.

Fatal Accident.—Last evening Mr. W. A. Purdy, residing near Catonsville, was painfully injured by being thrown from his chaise while driving up Fayette street. Mr. Purdy was removed into the restaurant of Mr. Charles Miles, near Calvert street, where his injuries were dressed by Dr. Pearson, who happened to be passing at the time of the accident.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Criminal Court.—Judge Bond—The following business occupied the attention of this Court on yesterday:

Admitted to bail—Squire Dunwell, $1,000, recovered by Elijah J. Vick; Rebecca Schultz, $500, rendered by Louisa Johnson; Jane Posey, (col'd) $1,000, rendered by Jas H. Logan. All cases of larceny as reported before.

Circuit Court.—Before Judge Alexander. The following business was transacted in this court on yesterday:

Charles Amos vs. Mary Amos. Bill for divorce *a vinculo matrimonii.*

Orphans' Court.—The following