The Daily Tribune.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 4, 1872.

A Great Insurance War—American versus English Companies.

A bitter Fire Insurance war has been raging for some time past in the United States, the effects of which, we presume, have been felt both in England and Canada. It appears to have grown out of the Chicago conflagration, the consequent crippling of a number of American Fire Companies, and the jubilant advertisements of English Companies in American newspapers. The latter circumstance appears to have aroused the wrath of our American cousins, and several authorities on Fire Insurance have taken the field to oppose English pretensions. Besides others that might be named, the Hon. Alexander Delmar, recently at the head of the U. S. Bureau of Statistics at Washington, holds a prominent place.

Mr. Delmar, in a pamphlet entitled "Lessons of the Chicago Fire," after dealing with the facts connected with Chicago's losses, proceeds to what we must consider the real object of his work,—a vigorous onslaught on English Fire Companies doing business in the States. He refers to the parade of "showy advertisements and placards, fine offices, wealthy directors, attractive forms of policies, cheap rates, the outward glitter of the insurance business—the veneers which are too commonly taken for the solid substance upon which alone insurance should rest." He then proceeds to demolish, first, the Liverpool, London and Globe Company. He quotes the latest public, authorized advertisement of the Company's resources as against Fire losses:—

Total assets, gold, - - - $20,869,079;

which, he claims, leads the insurer against fire to believe that this sum represents a fund responsible for any losses he may sustain. "Nothing," says Mr. Delmar, "is said about the fact that a sum equal "to a large proportion (they are not in "gold, either, but in stocks, loans, uncollected premiums, and the like,) is "pledged to secure *Life* liabilities, and a "sum nearly equal to the whole of them "is answerable for liabilities generally." He goes on to show that the latest Report of the Company to the Insurance Department of New York states the Company's liabilities at $19,617,662, or within a million dollars of the amount claimed as assets, "and nothing said of them in that connection"—over eleven of the nineteen million and odd dollars being Life liabilities. He adds that the Company in 1868 wrote fire risks "to the fearful amount of £221,819,627, or say $1,100,000,000, on a total capital of £391,752 or $1,958,760," and finds that "the whole thing is wrong and is most emphatically condemned." Mr. Delmar then deals after the same fashion with the "North British and Mercantile," also a mixed Life and Fire Company, and other Companies, contrasting their advertisements with their sworn statements, giving, in this as in other respects, the preference to American over Foreign Companies. For instance, he shows that American fire companies are prohibited from taking any single risk for an amount equal to more than five per cent. of their respective capitals, while English companies in the States may take risks to double that amount. He objects also to the floating policy issued by English companies, which attaches itself to merchandize wherever it may be. He regards this as a "risky arrangement" all around, and productive of litigation. In conclusion, he urges legislation "to absolutely forbid Life Companies, Foreign as "well as American, from doing a Fire "business," as well as to confine the heaviest single risks to three per cent. of the paid up capital stock of a Company, and to abolish the issuance of floating policies. The *Western Insurance Review* is also out against English Companies, making a special target of the Liverpool, London and Globe, "the great English mammoth," as it terms it;—it adopts much the same line of argument and utilizes the same facts as Mr. Delmar. It declares that this Company "has a less proportion of "assets to risks in force than many of our "American Companies, The comparison, "extended to small companies, would show "still more largely in favor of the superiority of American over English insurance as far as relative strength goes. * * * If the Liverpool, London and "Globe escapes the Chicago conflagration "with a million and a half good, honest "dollars *belonging to its fire department*, its "stockholders will have reason for congratulation." And so the work of magnifying American and depreciating English Insurance goes bravely on.

It has been urged by those interested that the greater protection to the insured in American Companies over those in English Companies is found in the thorough system of official inspection that prevails in the several States, notably so in New York State which supplies Fire and Life Insurance for a large portion of the Continent. The judgment and opinions of one official, in particular, have been frequently quoted, namely, those of Mr. George W. Miller, Superintendent of the Insurance Department of New York State. No advertisement of a New York Company was complete without an "extract" from Mr. Miller's report, and no Company could hope to live on which he refused to smile. Recently, however, the New York *Times*, having made thorough work of cleaning out Tammany Hall, has taken in hand the Insurance Department. Mr. Miller in the fracas has been handled pretty roughly. He appears to have been charged with sharp practice in dealing with certain Companies, and one newspaper has thought it advisable to explain how it happens that he is so very well off in this world's goods. The Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Secretaries of Fire and Life Companies, to the number of one hundred and seventy, have come to the rescue of Mr. Miller, in a card, in which they testify to his honesty as well as ability,—an advertisement that probably cost poor Miller some thousands of dollars for publication in the leading newspapers. The *Times* rejoins and points to a piece of State legislation which, it alleges, Mr. Miller caused to be quietly lobbied into the Supply Bill at Albany, and which reads as follows:—"And hereafter, on transfer of "securities, *one fifth of one per cent.* on the "amount transferred to be paid by the "company making the transfer, *to the* "*Superintendant of the Insurance Department.*" The life insurance companies of the State, says the *Times*, and of foreign countries admitted to the State, "are required by law to deposit securities in the Insurance Department for the protection of persons insured. These securities, now amounting to millions of dollars, are withdrawn from the Department from time to time, and other legal securities are substituted in their place. The apparently innocent clause in the Supply Bill referred to is regarded by the Superintendent as applying to these trust deposits belonging to policy-holders; and on the withdrawal or exchange of Government bonds, or bonds and mortgages constituting these deposits, and held by the Superintendent as the representative of the State in trust for hundreds of thousands of persons, the one-fifth of one per cent. of the entire amount of the funds so withdrawn or transferred is, with scrupulous care, exacted from the corporation making the transfers." This large sum of money Mr. Miller has appropriated to his personal use. The *Times* compliments him on the quickness of his perception, and declares that even Tweed, to whose school of politics he belongs, "must have entertained a profound "regard for an intellect which, in its official infancy, made such prodigions "strides in development!" It adds, however, in rather a menacing tone, that the obnoxious law will be swept from the Statute-book, and George W. Miller will be made to disgorge and refund to the State the money, many thousands of dollars, which he has illegally retained as his personal perquisite. And the *Times*, of late, has been very fortunate in its predictions of evil in the case of noted corruptionists. But whatever the *Times* may say, or the Legislatnre may do, it is on the record that there is a pleasant understanding between the Insurance Companies and the State Superintendent. They have come nobly to his rescue at a moment of imminent personal peril, and his subsequent investigations of their affairs ought to bear at least the stamp of gratitude. That Mr. Miller, too, for all time to come, will see merits in the management of Home Companies, as opposed to Foreign interlopers who do not sign certificates of character, is an expectation that may reasonably be entertained.

Music in our Schools.

[From Moore's Musical Record.]

In Germany, no teacher is considered as qualified to teach even a common school, who has not some knowledge of music. He must be able to lead a choir of voices, to sing, and to perform on some instrument. On the continent of Europe they are wise in this respect; and their music forms a daily part of the educational training. It is found far more effective than tasks, the rod or angry reproof, for softening rugged dispositions.

In respect to moral training and discipline, we regard music or singing in school as invaluable. Nothing so quickly relaxes the mind, and frees it from bad feelings and discouragements which the daily studies may engender. It relieves the teacher too, to join in a cheerful song, both bodily as well as mentally. A teacher who sings often will not so often scold. Song always draws closer its participants, and in the song exercise, if ever, there will be happiness in the school-room.

As a mental exercise, also, music fixes attention, concentrates thought, cultivates quick and nice discernment; while as physical exercise it brings into healthy action those vital organs which can not be reached so effectually in any other way. There is no occupation in life with which music cannot harmonize. It is an inexhaustible source of gratification; a present joy; and in future years will shed its soothing influence over the ruder experiences of life, lightening toil, cheering the family circle, and binding it closer in union.

We trust the day is coming, and we hope to live to see it, when not vocal but also instrumental music will appear as a common branch upon the teacher's certificate. By instrumental music, we mean nothing beyond the ability to read a simple air or an ordinary accompaniment upon the pianoforte—a degree of skill that may readily be acquired. Teach your children what they can practice when they become men, is a maxim we can commend to our readers; and we trust all will find this applicable to vocal and instrumental music.

Instrumental music, as an accompaniment to the voice, is becoming more and more a leading feature in our best public schools. It follows naturally upon the introduction of vocal music in the large cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Cincinnati and Chicago; and experience has long since satisfied intelligent school superintendents, committees and teachers of its value. A school without music is like a school without books; and a teacher opposed to music should not be permitted to undertake the management of any day or evening school.—

An Englishman Frozen to Death in the West.

[From the St. Paul (Minn.) Press, Dec. 24.]

The *Press* a few days ago gave the particulars of the freezing to death of a man at Holy Cross, in the Red River Valley, on Sunday, the 10th inst. From a gentleman who has just arrived from that section of the country further particulars are obtained. It was stated that deceased was a Canadian, which presumption was based on the fact that he had come to St. Paul from Toronto. It seems, however, that he was an English gentleman of wealth and distinction, named Miles Fletcher, who was formerly an officer in the Life Guards. Mr. Fletcher was a second cousin of the Marquis of Lorne, Queen Victoria's new son-in-law, and was widely known and esteemed in England. He came to America in pursuit of health, and after traveling over this country and Canada he concluded to make his home in the Red River Valley, and had made up his mind to open up a large farm and build a fine residence in the vicinity of Holy Cross, on Red River, in Dakota Territory. The remains of Mr. Fletcher will be taken to England for burial, for which purpose a metallic coffin has been ordered from St. Paul, and as soon as the preparations are completed the young widow, so suddenly left alone in the wilderness of the West, thousands of miles from home and friends, will accompany the body of her husband to its last resting place in her native land.

A Sad Court Scene.

The most interesting scene in the Wharton trial thus far was on Thursday, when the daughter of the accused, Miss Nellie Wharton, was called to testify. The filial devotion which she has manifested without intermission since the date of the arrest has conferred upon Miss Nellie an unsought celebrity. She has been her mother's constant companion for many months, attending her in her confinement, and sharing with her the gloom and privations of the cell. Young and beautiful, she had been the favorite of many of her own age; but she spontaneously and instantly relinquished all the delights of social life at the bidding of conscience and natural affection. The effect of prison life upon her countenance and person is very noticeable; and when she was brought forward to take the oath and entered the witnesses' box, few of her former friends would have probably recognized her, had it not been for the circumstances of the occasion. Upon her face were traces of great suffering and fear. The cheeks were sunken, the eyes drooping, the lip tremulous and the figure wasted away. To the first questions propounded to her, her replies were almost inaudible, but upon being kindly encouraged by the counsel she repressed her emotion, and gave her evidence in clear, distinctly-articulated words, though at times, when some of the questions pointed to her mother's arrest, her feelings over came her, and she could not answer. The sight of the poor girl's tears was sufficient to move the most unconcerned spectator, and it was apparent that she had the sympathy of all present.

LOCALS.

MESSRS HEGAN, dry goods, have also adopted the cash system in their retail trade.

THE DAILY TRIBUNE may be purchased early in the afternoon at Mr. Puddington's Grocery, 44 Charlotte St.

☞ Mr. Samuel Mires, Waterloo street, has changed his name to Samuel Myres.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Victoria Hotel Co. will be held on Wednesday next.

TO NIGHT the St. John Brass Band is advertized to play at the Rink, when people will have an opportunity of judging between "old and new."

LECTURE.—Rev G. A. Hartley will lecture at Kingston, K. C., in the new Free Baptist Meeting House on Wednesday, 17th inst. Subject, "The World owes me a Living."

"MUSIC IN THE SCHOOLS" is treated in a pleasant style by Moore's Musical Record, whose remarks we give in another column.

THIS EVENING.—The Reading in the School Room of the Germain St. Wesleyan Church advertized for this evening, will be given by Mr. March. The Pitt St. Concert is also advertized for 8 o'clock. We don't know what effect the storm will have upon upon the arrangements.

SKATING ON THE SIDEWALKS last evening was good. Coasting was also indulged in to a great extent Probably, if the boys were strong enough to haul the policeman, some of them would be arrested and the police would drive them to the Station. As it is now, pedestrians have to be very watchful.

MR. T. W. LEE, A. B., intends to continue his Private School, (formerly known as the Superior School,) in Lawrence's Building, King St. A few private schools in the City will, no doubt, be fairly patronized, notwithstanding the Free School system. These need be very few in number, however, and must be very choice.

ALBION.—This evening Albion Division, Sons of Temperance, will consider the advisability of renting the handsome new Hall of the Odd Fellows, near the Victoria Hotel, on Germain St, for the purpose of holding their weekly meetings in it. Odd Fellows' Hall would certainly be the place for the pleasant gatherings of such a flourishing Division as Albion.

SAD ACCIDENT.—Yesterday morning, as a young man named Ford, was working at Jones' Ship Knee Establishment, Erin street, he was suddenly struck on the head by a piece of board, which fell from the outside of the roof. It inflicted a very severe wound, and he now lies in a precarious state. Ford is a carpenter by trade, and was married only a few weeks ago. His wife, who was absent at Milledgeville, was sent for last evening.

A POWERFUL STEAM FOG ALARM, built by George Fleming & Sons, of this city, has been erected at the entrance of Digby Gut, near the Light House, by the Dominion Government, and is now in operation. It has been heard under favorable circumstances six miles to windward, against a very strong breeze; and in a calm, at Annapolis, a distance of over twenty miles from the whistle.

RUNAWAY.—Last night, a man named Johnson was found lying insensible on the Marsh Road, near the One Mile House, with a buffalo robe near him, and a horse and sleigh were caught shortly afterwards in the City. It was supposed that Johnson had the team and was upset on the road. He was brought to the city when it was found he was only stunned.

THE ELECTION OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES is fixed for Thursday next all over the Province. The *Freeman*, although it believes the law invalid, is nevertheless of opinion that "while that question remains undecided, it is well for the rate payers to be as careful in attending these elections and selecting proper persons to act as Trustees as if there were no doubt of its validity." Every ratepayer who takes the slightest interest in education should be to the front, determined to secure the services of the very best men in their respective localities.

SCHOOL MATTERS.—From the *Telegraph* learn that the undermentioned parties have been appointed County School Inspectors:

Albert—James Carnwath, Riverside, Hopewell.
Carleton—James Edgar, Woodstock.
Charlotte, exclusive of the Parish of Clarendon—James Mitchell, St. Stephen.
Gloucester—James Smith, Bathurst.
Kent—Thos W. Wood, Richibucto.
King's—David P. Wetmore, Clifton.
Northumberland—Jas. J. Peirce, Chatham.
Queen's, inclusive of the Parish of Clarendon in the County of Charlotte—Rev. Benjamin Shaw, Cambridge.
Restigouche—Rev. Thomas Nicholson, River Charlo.
St. John—E H. Duval, St. John.
Sunbury—Dr. J. H. Bridges, Upper Sheffield.
Victoria—Dr. Xavier Bernier, Little Falls.
Westmorland—Jas. Dalton, Bay Verte.
York—E. C. Freeze, Fredericton.

When efforts are being made, both by the Legislature and the rate-payers, to keep the operation of the new Act as free as possible from all sectarian influences, it is greatly to be regretted that the Government has appointed two clergymen to Inspectorships. It is also a pity that several of the old Inspectors have been re-appointed. These officials, without exception, we believe, had managed to make themselves remarkably unpopular, and their continuance in the School service in the same capacity will tend to create ill feeling towards the Act. We presume, however, that this is another of those cases where Government's better judgment has given way before the demands of County members.

From the *Telegraph* we also learn that the Portland Board of Trustees, last evening, appointed thirty-one teachers, as follows:

Thomas Simpson,	Samuel McDermott,
W. C. Simpson,	Miss Katy Kerr,
James Mulholland,	" J. P. Robertson,
Wm. M. McLean,	" Sarah Taylor,
Thomas Burke,	" Bessie Boyd,
Robert Aitkin,	" M. Gorham,
Daniel Morrison,	" A. J. Laskey,
James McKenna,	" I. Humphrey,
J. V Roberts,	" M. Wheaton,
John Ring,	" G Penalagin,
James A. Wetmore,	" Jane Canard,
John Brooks,	" E. Whetherell,
Wm. Kearney,	" Lizzie Sullivan,
James Crawford,	" Bridget Kelly,
Patk. O'Donnell,	" M. Glynn.
Mrs. McCann,	

First-class male teachers will receive from the Board $500 a year; second-class do. $380; third do. $300. First class female teachers $290; second do. do. $210; third do. do. $150.

THEY manage some matters better in Ontario than we do here. The "Cordwood question" has been satisfactorily settled there by one railway at least. The *Monetary Times* says:—The management of the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway are winning golden opinions among the citizens of Toronto by the free delivery of wood over their line. The market has been broken, and a fall of prices of $1 to $2 per cord has occurred. Any person may bring wood from stations on the Line at 2½c. to 3c. per cord per mile. At a distance of 50 miles there is plenty of wood offering at about $3 per cord, and the freight at the above rates would be $1.25 to $1.50 per cord, so that it is now possible to lay down wood in the city, delivered, at $4.75 to $5.25 per cord. It is not necessary to explain the difference between these figures and $8, the price lately current. Eight dollars is still the ruling price in St. John.

THE MARCH OF PROGRESS.—The Presque Isle Sunrise tells a story of free love in Aroostook It says that a pretended physician by the name of Thompson was last summer hanging about Houlton and finally went off, and about the same time a married woman left, having been furnished with money by her husband. After a few weeks they returned, stopped a few weeks and went away again, and a few days since returned together and took rooms at the Snell House, and demanded of the husband of the woman $3000. He, however, had the scoundrel arrested and he is now in jail Thompson, it is said, has a wife and family in some distant town, but says the spirits have divorced him from his former wife and directed him to marry this woman.

THE REV. G. W. M. CAREY presided at the meeting of the Central Board of the Women's Aid Missionary Society in Germain St. Baptist Church last evening. Sixteen societies now communicate with the Central Board in this Province. The societies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island support two lady missionaries in Calcutta, who in that wide field manage to find enough to do. Contributions received during the year amounted to $546.21, the following sums being reported from local churches: Germain St., $66.58; Leinster St., $56.84; Brussels st., $55.77; Portland: $34.27. Amount expended $531.45; leaving a balance on hand of $14.76. Rev. Mr. Boggs, Mr. Carey and Mr Spencer shortly addressed the meeting.

JAILERS, as a rule, are easier on themselves than on others, especially their prisoners; but a case has occurred where a jailer appears not to have been sufficiently careful of his health. The Aroostook *Pioneer* says Mr. W. J. Nye, jailer at Houlton, had been taking a preparation of bromide of potassium, and recently sent to an apothecary to have a bottle filled. He took a dose, which had scarcely been swallowed before he begun to suffer intensely, and soon became unconscious. Physicians were called and he was relieved, and it was discovered that he had been given cyanide of potassium instead of the bromide,—a violent poison, of which he took enough for eight medicinal doses.

FIRE.—On New Year's night, Mr. Isaac Burpee's residence at Mount Pleasant, Portland, was brilliantly illuminated, presenting a beautiful scene, which came very near terminating disastrously, as some of the Chinese lanterns took fire and were all ablaze in an instant, slightly damaging the furniture and ceiling where it originated. It was extinguished before extending further.

"THE CANADA ILLUSTRATED NEWS" improves with every number. The numbers for Dec. 23 and Dec. 30, sent us by Mr. Hall, of the Colonial Book Store, contain supplements in the highest style of the lithographer's art. Mr. Hall receives subscriptions for the paper.

THE PARTY IN CHARGE OF THE NEWS ROOM contradicts, through a morning cotemporary, our charge of disorder and inattention in the News Room management. It is susceptible of proof that ten days to a fortnight's papers have been missing from the files at one time; that dirt reigned triumphant for a time; that the fires were unlighted for a week; and even last night the gas was so dim the papers could not be read. The subscribers, very naturally, complain of these things. If a public notice will have the effect of working an improvement, that is all that either they or we desire.

THE ST. JOHN CHORAL SOCIETY, who have made rapid progress under the able guidance of their conductor, Mr. E. Peiler, intend giving two Concerts at the end of this month. Several pieces of high merit, from the Creation and Judas Maccabeus, have been in active rehearsal for some time, and Mr. Peiler, we believe, has succeeded in engaging for the solos several distinguished Oratorio singers from Boston.

THE ST JOHN BUILDING SOCIETY have purchased a tract of land on the North East corner of Pitt and Orange streets, from Judge Watters, for the erection of a block of first class residences. Mr. D. E. Dunham has prepared plans to be submitted to the Society, and if the views of the Society be carried out, and the plans adopted, it will not be long before St. John will enter into the spirit of possessing as good a class of rented houses as other cities.

SHIPPING NOTES.—Yesterday we inadvertently stated that the brigt. "Leona" had been ashore at Hillsborough. It was the brigt. "Orion" and not the "Leona" which met with disaster as reported.

Messrs. Lent, Newcomb & Co., of Weymouth, N. S., have just finished a fine bark called the "Jessie Goodwin." She is 346 tons register and was built under French Lloyds' survey to class 3-3 1. 1, 8 years. She is commanded by Capt. Wm. H. German, and will sail next week for this port seeking freight.

This morning, Messrs. Oulton Bros. received advice that their ship "Josephine Oulton" cleared yesterday at New Orleans for Liverpool with a cargo consisting of 3,750 bales of cotton at 9 16d., and 300 tons of oil cake at 32s. 6d.

The brigt. "Alfaretta," of Dorchester, N. B, which was sunk in Hell Gate about a month ago, has been raised and towed to New York City, 1st inst.

The Savannah *Advertizer* of 29th ult., says:—"Within the past few days one of the largest fleets of sailing vessels has arrived at this port that has been noticed at any one time since the close of the war. While our wharves are lined with a forest of masts two and three tier deep for over a mile, Tybee Roads is said to present the appearance of an immense harbor, so numerous are the vessels there awaiting orders. Freights are taking a downward tendency, and probably many of the vessels will look for other ports. The tonnage dues on vessels entered at the Custom House yesterday, alone, amounted to over $1,400,—the largest day's business there for many years."

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE.—The following despatches were received at the Exchange to-day:—

Montreal, Jan. 3rd.—Red wheat 11 2d. to 11 6d.

New York flour market 5 and 10 cents better. Common to Choice Extra State $6 40 a $7.10.

Pork quiet, $14.25 new; $13.12 old.

Grain freights 6 1-2d.

Montreal flour market quiet; Western States; Welland Canal $5 90.

New York, Jan. 4th.—Gold opened at 9 1-4.

IN THE CITY POLICE COURT TO-DAY, Benj. Lawton, 28, a sailor, drunk on Market Square; first offence; let go.

Daniel McDade, came to the station for protection; let go.

Owen Gantland, 50, lurking about Drury Lane; let go.

Mary McNamara, 30, drunk on Duke street; let go.

Edward McManus, 23, drunk on Prince William street; sent to gaol for 5 days.

W. McCarty, 20, charged by P. Connolly, coachman, with using abusive language; dismissed, Connolly paying costs.

Richard McDonald charged with selling liquor after 11 p. m. case dismissed.

IN THE PORTLAND POLICE COURT TO-DAY, on the evidence of Policemen John Owens and Daniel Lindsay, of the Portland Force, Daniel McEvoy, of the Three Mile House, was fined $10 and costs for selling them liquor on Sunday, Dec. 24, and George Hutchings, who keeps five miles out, was fined a similar sum on the evidence of the same police officers. Mr. D. S. Korr appeared for the defence and "rasped" the officials.

Thomas Clark got out a summons for Thomas Armstrong, but as Armstrong's name is not Thomas, he didn't appear.

George Davis, against Thomas Drum, was postponed till to morrow.

INTERESTING RAILWAY DECISION.—The report of Judge Nesmith, referee in the case of Adeline Norris against the Grand Trunk Railroad, was brought into the Supreme Judical Court, lately sitting at Lancaster, N. H. In June, 1867, the plaintiff bought a ticket from Portland to North Stafford, and stopped over at Northumberland. On the next train the conductor refused to recognize her check, and put her off, obliging her to take another conveyance. On the journey she took a cold that has ever since held to her. On the ticket was "Good for this train and the day received; not good to stop over." Award $600 and costs.

A NICE POINT IN AN INSURANCE SUIT.—In a case against a New York insurance company, which was tried in San Francisco lately, for the burning of a mill in Santa Clara county, California, the defence set up was that a clause in the policy provides that any suit on the same must be commenced within a year from the loss, which was not done. The point at issue was whether the year commenced when the fire took place or at the time notice of the loss was given the company. The court held that the year commenced at the time notice was given, and the demurrer of the defendants was accordingly overruled.

Inconstancy.

They parted as fond lovers par';
She, weeping, hung upon his breast;
"Oh, love!" she cried, "my aching heart
Will know not quiet, peace or rest,
Or aught but bitterness and pain,
Till you come safely back again."

"Hush!" he said, softly, "I must go
'Tis next to death to part with you;
But I shall come again, I know—
Shall come, and find you constant true:
And, be the strife both fierce and long,
This thought will make my brave and strong."

* * * *

Six months have passed—the sun's last beam
Falls on the maiden, as she stands,
With downcast eyes and cheeks agleam,
While at her side, with out-stretched hands
And pleading lips, a lover sighs.
At length she lifts her dusky eyes,

And with a half-breathed murmur, "Yes,"
She nestles softly to his breast.
Forgotten—all her deep distress:
Forgotten—tears and wild unrest:
Forgotten—every pledge and vow:
A new love warms her bosom now.

Upon a bloody battle-plain.
This sunset hour, a soldier lies;
His tender mouth is white with pain,
And death is speaking from his eyes:
"My faithful, constant, stricken love!"
He cries, "may the dear Friend above

'Bend down, and comfort you, I pray.
Oh, heart that beats for me alone!
Oh, eyes that watch for me alway!
I die, my love—my bride—my own!'
Thank God, no gift of second-sight,
I given unto him to-night.

NONSENSE.

—Kansas has a female Acting Adjutant-General—Miss Carrie Sain.

—A Franklin street gentleman and his wife had a little argument Christmas eve, when he kindly said he would hang up her stockings for her. Which he did; but inadvertently omitted to take her out of them. She stood on her head for nine minutes when the neighbors arbitrated.—[Norwich Bulletin.

—"Never mind the obituary, Judge," said a Montana culprit when the Court became pathetic in pronouncing the sentence. "Let's fix the time for the funeral."

—The latest manifestation of lunacy is a spiritual post office, established by a fellow named Flint, in New York. Letters from lunatics in the flesh directed to spirits in heaven or hell, as the case may be, are forwarded to Mr. Flint's post office in New York and he sends them by express to their destination, and receives the answer. The postage is rather binding, being two dollars per letter; but it must be remembered that the department is new and the expenses heavy. By-and by a movement will probably be made in the direction of cheap postage, as the facilities for intercommunication between the celestial, infernal and terrestial kingdoms are increased.

—A New York belle accidentally tore off a piece from her photograph of the Grand Duke for a cigar-light for her brother. Her condition is critical.

—The Emperor of China is soon to be married, and has imported a pair of elephants to assist at the ceremony. His future consort is undergoing a careful training in the etiquette of court life. For three years the looms of Nankin, Hongchau and Canton have been engaged on the silks and satins for her bridal trousseau, and just now they are announced as completed, at a cost of nearly half a million in our money. While the bridegroom, who has the sun for his emblem, goes forth in a car drawn by elephants, his bride, who represent the moon, is to be borne to her palace in a palanquin composed entirely of strings of pearls.

—Two colored Rhode Islanders, who couldn't agree as to which one should go home with her, referred the matter to the arbitration of a pistol.

—Upon the trial of a suit for divorce, one of the witnesses was asked whether he had spoken to any of the jury since the trial commenced. "Yes, sir, I spoke to Mr. ——," pointing to a juryman with a face as red as a blood beet. "What did you say to him?" Witness appeared reluctant to tell. The attorney insisted upon the answer. "Well," said the witness, "I told him that he had a pretty face to sit on a jury to decide whether a man was a habitual drunkard or not"

—A California savant has invented a machine to enable people to sleep with their fingers touching their toes, and thus prolong life indefinitely, according to his theory. He apparently believes, with Prospero, that "our little life is 'rounded' by a sleep."

—It is the misfortune of celebrities to be talked about in various more or less unpleasant ways, and Miss Nilsson finds no exception in her own case It is difficult to believe that the smiling dignified blonde developes such a jealous temper in private as to drive the pretty, laughing Annie Cary to tears; but such is the story which follows close upon the heels of the tale of her recently manifested wrath against Miss Kellogg. As if to complete the defamation of the Swedish songstress, she is represented as having transferred her affections from the promising young French broker with a long moustache, to that most seductive of stage lovers, M. Capoul. Furthermore, the jilted Frenchman is said to be desirous of shooting his tenor rival.

—A man from San Francisco who had not heard of the Chicago fire, arrived there last week. After looking at the ruins he turned to a stranger and asked, "How long did the earthquake last, old sport?"

One of the incidents of the Chandler wedding is related by the Washington Capital: It seems that when the charming Widow Aulick came to make her toilette it was discovered that the ruthless Board of Public Works had torn up the street and cut off the gas. A lady cannot dress without light. The prospect was dark. News of the trouble reached the Navy Department, (Sec'y Robeson.) The Navy Department was aroused. In a few hours an immense force was put upon the street, and in full time for the party light was thrown upon the charmed home. This carries us back to the days of romance and gallantry. A softened, rosy light of more poetic times falls upon the rude streets of Washington.

—As the passengers were preparing to leave their seats on the arrival of the New York train in Boston the other evening, an old gentleman picked up a dark object which appeared to drop from a lady's bonnet "Madam, is this yours? You appear to have dropped it by accident." "Thank you, sir," (placing her hand to her head) "a railroad accident—a misplaced switch."

—A Connecticut lady mistook the character of a surprise party, and deposited the refreshments brought by the callers in her pantry. After waiting until 3 o'clock in the morning for the customary spread, the party broke up hungry, not quite realizing that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

—A rural editor has lost all faith in the luck of horse shoes. He nailed one over his door recently, and that morning there came by mail three duns and seven "stops," and a man called with a revolver to ask "who wrote that article?"

—His precise age is one hundred and four years, and he lives at Council Bluffs this time. But being an eccentric centenarian, he does not walk twenty miles and saw three cords of wood daily; on the contrary, he begs.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[*SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE DAILY TRIBUNE.*]

British and Foreign.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE QUEEN.—LOSS OF LIFE IN THE BLACK SEA.—SHOCKING ACCIDENT IN IRELAND.—A FRENCHMAN NOT RADICAL ENOUGH.—GAMBETTA AND DISORDER IN MARSEILLES.—GOOD ADVICE.—LATEST FROM SPAIN.—MAYOR HALL'S DIFFICULTIES.—MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE ORGANIZED.—THE ROCHESTER RIOTERS DEFIANT.

(*Special Telegrams to the Daily Tribune.*)

LONDON, Jan. 3.

The Queen has returned to Windsor, and the Town Council to-day presented an address congratulating her upon the convalescence of the Prince of Wales and praying that he be speedily restored to full health.

Four Greek brigs have been wrecked in the Black Sea, and all on board perished.

DUBLIN, Jan. 3.

The floor of the Court Room at Kittycloger in Leitrim, Ireland, gave way while a trial was in progress.

The room was crowded and 300 persons were precipitated thirty or forty feet; the number killed is unknown. About thirty were badly injured:—most of them fatally.

PARIS; Jan. 3.

M. Vautrain has written a letter accepting nomination to the Assembly from the Radical party in Paris, while he declares his belief that a Republic alone can save France. He refuses to place a Republic above Universal Suffrage.

This reservation has given offence to some journals, which first proposed his candidacy. They reproach him for the stand he has taken, and withdraw their support.

Despatches from Marseilles report that the presence of Gambetta in that city war the cause of much agitation and some disorder. His hotel was surrounded yesterday by throngs of friends, who endeavored to call him out.

At one time the assemblage was so numerous and turbulent that troops were ordered to the scene, and the Chasseurs charged upon and dispersed the mob.

Gambetta is not allowed by the police to leave his hotel, for fear his appearance would lead to further disturbances.

He advises his friends not to persist in collecting in large bodies in the streets or attempt resistance to the authorities. He tells them they have a right to hold meetings, but should withdraw in the presence of armed force and not provoke collision.

There has been no renewal of the agitation to-day.

Gambetta remains at his Hotel, and it is given out that he is confined to room by illness.

The Commission of the Assembly to whom the subject was referred made a report approving the project for a steam ferry between Dover and Calais.

MADRID, Jan. 3.

A special meeting of the Ministerial Council was held yesterday, the King presiding in person.

The question of reopening the Sessions of the Cortes, and of appointing a new Captain General for Cuba was under consideration.

It is understood that a decision was arrived at on the latter point, and that the name of the appointee will be announced to-morrow.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.

City Hall is in state of siege.

The Aldermanic Chamber is guarded by the Police City.

The Library locked up.

The Mayor's office is guarded by bolts.

Preparations are making to prevent Alderman Coman, who styles himself acting Mayor, making an effort to occupy the official Chair.

Hall is not at his office, but it is understood that he is indifferent to the action of the Old Board of Aldermen. The clerks of the Old Board of Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen have turned all books and documents over to the Clerks of the New Board.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., Jan. 3.

The Connecticut Labor Reform Convention met in Bridgeport to-day, and nominated A. R. Harrison, of New Haven, for Governor.

A long platform was adopted, similar to that of the National Convention held in St. Louis in 1870.

BOSTON, Jan. 4.

The General Court of Massachusetts assembled yesterday.

The Senate was organized by the choice of Hon. H. H. Coolidge, of Boston, for President, and S. N. Gifford, of Duxbury, Clerk.

The House organized by the election of John E. Sanford, of Taunton, Speaker, and William S. Robinson, of Malden, Clerk.

CONCORD, N. H., Jan. 4.

The New Hampshire Republican State Convention was held here yesterday.

Hon. E. A. Straw, of Manchester, was nominated for Governor.

Resolutions were adopted, and addresses were made by Senators Wilson and Patterson.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 3.

The excitement continues. The mob is still defiant, and more military have been called out.

Howard, the criminal, will not be tried while the recovery of his victim is doubtful.

The city was comparatively quiet last night.

[The brief despatch to the Associated Press contains nothing in addition to the news brought by our Specials, except the following:—]

The London *Standard* says that the questions arising from the assassination of Bavarian soldiers in France will be settled without resort to vigorous measures.

IF YOU LOVE good things secure some of those fine Oysters at George Sparrow's, King Street. 1w—dec 30