

COLLECTIONS
OF
CAYUGA COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUBURN, N. Y.

NUMBER NINE

1891.



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TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY COPIES.

NUMBER

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AUBURN, N. Y.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Historical Society held January 14, 1890 :

By Mr. Seward :

Resolved, That the next publication of the Society be the *Record of Current Events*, prepared by B. B. Snow.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION.

We, the undersigned, citizens of the United States, residing within the County of Cayuga and State of New York, and being also citizens of the State of New York, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, do hereby associate ourselves and form a corporation, pursuant to the provisions of the Statutes of the State of New York, known as chapter 267, of the laws of 1875, as amended by chapter 53 of the laws of 1876.

The name by which such corporation shall be known in law, is "THE CAYUGA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY."

Said corporation is formed for social, literary and historical purposes, and the particular business and objects thereof, shall be the discussion of general and local history, and the discovery, collection and preservation of the historical records of Cayuga County, aforesaid, comprising books, newspapers, pamphlets, maps and genealogies; and also of paintings, relics and any articles or materials which may or shall illustrate the growth or progress of society, religion, education, literature, art, science, agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and the trades and professions within the United States, and especially within the County of Cayuga, and State of New York.

The principal office and place of business of said Society, shall be in the city of Auburn, Cayuga County, N. Y.

The said corporation shall be managed by seven trustees. The names of said trustees for the first year of existence of said corporation, are, Benjamin B. Snow, Blanchard Fosgate, James D. Button, Lewis E. Carpenter, David M. Dunning, John H. Osborne, and J. Lewis Grant, all of Auburn, N. Y.

It is hereby intended to incorporate an association heretofore existing under the name of "The Cayuga County Historical Society," but heretofore unincorporated.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, the 23d day of January, 1877.

CHARLES HAWLEY, [L. s.]

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, [L. s.]

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NELSON B. ELDRED, [L. s.]	F. P. TABER, [L. s.]

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
 Cayuga County. } ss.

On the first day of February, 1877, personally appeared before me, a Notary Public, in and for said county: Charles Hawley, William H. Seward, James D. Button, Blanchard Fosgate, Benjamin B. Snow, John S. Clark, Franklin L. Griswold, John H. Osborne, William A. Baker, David M. Dunning, Lewis E. Carpenter, Dennis R. Alward, Joseph W. Dunning, Horace J. Knapp, Alonzo G. Beardsley, Jr., Silas L. Bradley, Charles J. Reed, Nelson B. Eldred, David M. Osborne, Otis M. Goddard, Byron C. Smith, Charles A. Smith, John Underwood, George R. Peck, John T. M. Davie, James Seymour, Jr., David H. Armstrong, Frank P. Taber, Ed. S. Newton and A. W. Lawton, to me personally known to be thirty of the persons described in, and who executed the foregoing instrument and severally acknowledged that they executed the same.

CHARLES M. BAKER,
Notary Public, Cayuga County.

CAYUGA COUNTY, SS.

On the 2d day of February, 1877, personally appeared before me, Samuel W. Duffield, Gorton W. Allen and William H. Carpenter, to me known to be three of the persons described in, and who executed the foregoing instrument, and severally acknowledged the execution thereof.

CHARLES M. BAKER,
Notary Public.

The undersigned, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, for the Seventh Judicial District of the State of New York, hereby consents to and approves of the filing of the foregoing certificate.

Dated Auburn, N. Y., February 2, 1877.

CHARLES C. DWIGHT,
Jus. Sup. Ct., 7th Jud. Dist., S. N. Y.

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ANNUAL MEETING.

The literary exercises of the fourteenth annual meeting of the society were held at the residence of the President, Gen. Wm. H. Seward, Friday evening, February 27, 1891.

The President read his annual address, setting forth the prosperous condition of the society for the past year.

A paper entitled "A Day with Gov. Seward at Auburn, in 1870," prepared by Hon. F. B. Carpenter, was read by John W. O'Brien, Esq.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of nine, of which the President shall be a member, be appointed to take into consideration the centennial celebration of the settlement of Auburn.

The committee is constituted as follows :

Gen. Wm. H. Seward, B. B. Snow, Frank W. Richardson, John W. O'Brien, Thomas M. Osborne, Nelson B. Eldred, Henry D. Titus, Henry A. Morgan.

The society and friends were entertained by the President and Mrs. Seward with their customary cordial hospitality.

RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

A SERIES OF PAPERS,

READ BEFORE THE CAYUGA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

(1879-'90.)

BY B. B. SNOW.

(SECOND SERIES.)

INTRODUCTORY.

The death of the late President of this society, was a source of sincere sorrow to all its members; but aside from the personal loss to his associates in the society, the death of Dr. Hawley was an irreparable loss to the society itself. He had been its President from its organization. He felt a deep interest in its prosperity and labored assiduously to promote its aims. Entering upon a line of special historical research, which was of national, as well as of local interest, he gave to the public the results of his investigations, through the medium of the society, thereby securing for it an enviable prominence among similar societies throughout the land. His special work ended with him, or at least is indefinitely suspended.

But the loss has not been wholly without compensation. The members of the society, who had long been associated with Dr. Hawley, felt that the work he had inaugurated should not be discontinued, and that it would be a most appropriate tribute to his memory, to prosecute the work of the society with such ability as they could command and in such lines as they might find available.

Sharing this sentiment, I have consented to renew for a season, my contributions to the exercises of the society. It would be to me a pleasant duty, if other exacting cares were less jealous of my time. Should the effort serve in any degree to promote the prosperity of the society and perpetuate its existence, by adding interest to its gatherings, I shall feel amply recompensed for assuming a burden which is by no means light.

When I undertook a task somewhat similar to this, some years since, the distinguished Dr. Schliemann, famous in a special line of Oriental research, was just coming prominently before the public, by the publication of a volume relating his discoveries in excavating the site of ancient Troy. The fancy occurred to me that I might put my record in the form of letters to a Dr. Schliemann of the distant future, delving among the ruins of buried Auburn, untold centuries hence. In so doing, I disclaim any thought of disrespect to the eminent archæologist of our own time. The epistolary form is usually pleasing, is free from restraint, and affords a convenient medium for news, gossip, or whatever else may strike the fancy. I have therefore decided to continue the fiction, and the shadowy "Dr. Schliemann" will continue to act as scene-shifter at the stereopticon entertainments which I have undertaken to present.

RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

SECOND SERIES.

AUBURN, N. Y., April 13, 1886.

MY DEAR DR. SCHLIEMANN :

I was surprised, upon consulting the date of the last record I prepared for you, to find that upwards of seven years had since elapsed. And now, as I come to renew my task, it is with no little misgiving lest my former efforts may have surfeited you. But you are in the fortunate position of being at liberty to drop the record whenever it wearies you.

A vast deal of history accumulates in seven years. I shall not attempt to present more than a meagre sketch of events, which have transpired since I last wrote you. I would restrict myself to the narrative of local history, but for the fact that in these latter days, all history is local. The facilities for intercourse between the nations of the world, are today better than were those between the counties of England a century ago. The world is a family of nations. A rumpus in one household breaks the quiet of the entire neighborhood. A shot fired in the Balkans, on the Afghanistan frontier, on the banks of the Nile, disturbs the nerve centers at London, Paris, New York, Chicago, and through them reaches the extremities of civilization. I shall therefore assume your interest in some of the more important events which have broken the quiet of the leading nations, before taking up the less eventful record of our own hamlet.

GREAT BRITAIN.

When my last record closed, England was just emerging from a successful intervention between the Czar and the Ottoman Porte, by which Constantinople was saved from falling into the possession of Russia. Closely following upon the close of the war between Russia and Turkey, England felt herself compelled to interfere in the affairs of Afghanistan, in the interest of her Indian empire. The sovereignty of Afghanistan being disputed, England espoused the cause of her favorite among the claimants to the throne, and dispatched an army into the country to establish his claim. Through the summer and fall of 1879, much severe fighting took place, not always to the advantage of the English, whose forces suffered severely, but the rebellion was finally crushed and the sovereignty established in the interests favorable to the British crown.

Meantime a war broke out in South Africa, between the British colonies and the fierce Zulu tribe under the leadership of their King, Cetawayo. The Zulus fought with a desperation which was more than a match for British valor, and only the superior arms and discipline of the British troops gave them the final victory. On the 28th of August 1879, King Cetawayo was captured which virtually ended the war. The fallen monarch was taken to London, August 1, 1882, given a free ticket to all the shows in the metropolis of the world, and was then sent back home and restored to his throne. He has since been better natured, although another tribe, the Boers, have demonstrated the undesirable character of savages as neighbors.

As a sad episode in the fierce Zulu war, I should not forget to mention the fate of Prince Louis Napoleon, only son of Napoleon III and the fair Empress Eugenie, the heir to the empty and garreted throne of France. On the 27th of February 1879, he volunteered in the English service and departed for South Africa. On the 2d of June following, he fell in an

ambush of the natives, with seventeen assagai wounds in his body. His remains were brought to England and buried with much pomp and ceremony, in June following.

Close upon the termination of the Zulu war, followed the war in Egypt. This dependency of the Ottoman Porte had become greatly indebted to both England and France for moneys advanced, and the Khedive was not so prompt in meeting his obligations. His cabinet got him into trouble, and in May 1882, the aspect of affairs assumed a serious hue. On the 11th of July the English fleet bombarded Alexandria at the mouth of the Nile, and the limited resources of the Egyptian government rendered the conquest of lower Egypt a holiday excursion for the British troops.

But more serious work awaited them. The false prophet, El Mahdi, had incited an insurrection in the Soudan, and the English General Gordon had been sent by the Khedive to quell the same. The fanatics who gathered to the standard of the false prophet, fought with a desperation which has no parallel in the history of warfare. On the 16th of February, 1884, General Gordon reached Khartoum, where his garrison was surrounded and eventually taken and massacred, January 26, 1885. The English government attempted his rescue by sending forces up the Nile, but the fierce opposition of the natives and the natural obstacles to be overcome, rendered the advance of the army of relief too slow to be of avail. The Egyptian campaign was the most disastrous of any in English history.

Domestic troubles have harrassed the home government almost continuously. The discontented Emerald Isle has caused more trouble and expense to England than the whole island is worth. Conspiracies, assassinations, dynamite plots, labor riots, have been constantly recurring. On the 13th of December 1884, an attempt to blow up the famous London bridge with dynamite was made and one of the stone abutments was seriously shattered. On the 24th of January 1885,

a similar attempt was made to destroy the parliament buildings and London tower, three separate explosions occurring almost simultaneously. A reorganization of the ministry after the elections in December last, restores Mr. Gladstone to the premiership, he having been set aside in June previous on account of the general dissatisfaction with the conduct of the Egyptian war. The great question which is agitating the English public now is the demand for Home Rule in Ireland. On the 8th of April instant, Mr. Gladstone presented to parliament his scheme for granting a separate parliament, and substantially Home Rule to the Emerald Isle, an event the importance of which and of its issue engrosses the attention of the civilized world.

The Indian empire of England has been quiet since the Afghan war until, in the last year, a misunderstanding arose with the neighboring kingdom of Burmah. Theebaw, King of Burmah, succeeded his father who died September 11, 1878. To make his throne secure, he caused his uncles and his cousins and his aunts to the number of eighty-six to be assassinated, lest they might be possible aspirants to the throne. His rule has been in keeping with his accession, and England thought best to take his possessions into her own keeping. On the 30th of November, 1885, King Theebaw surrendered to the British, and on the 1st of January 1886, by proclamation, the kingdom of Burmah ceased to exist, being annexed to the Indian empire, except a little strip which was ceded to China to straighten out the line fence.

FRANCE.

France has been progressing quietly in her new role of a republic. Ineffectual attempts have been made from time to time by her legislature to secure an act of expatriation of the Orleans princes and for the sale of the crown jewels, on the ground that the presence of these scions of a royal stock and the baubles of their ancestors is dangerous to French liberty.

She has shown a disposition, of questionable policy for a

republic, to extend her sway to remote parts of the earth. She secured the over-lordship of Tunis in Northern Africa, in May 1881, and gained a foothold in Anam in Eastern Asia, in May 1882, which has involved her in an expensive war with China. On the 25th of August 1883, she closed the war in Anam by the capture of Hué, its capital. The complications with China ended with a Treaty of Peace, in May 1884, but in August following a second war broke out which continued until a second Treaty of Peace, June 9, 1885. She attempted the conquest of Madagascar, but the natives evaded her by fleeing to the inaccessible heights of the interior, leaving the French, however, in possession of the Port of Tamatave, on the eastern coast. Peace was concluded on the 22nd of December last.

She secured a footing on the western coast of Africa, March 28, 1883, near the mouth of the Congo, by occupying Porta Negra and Loango, so as to be in position to avail herself of the advantages of the newly formed free state in Central Africa, which Stanley under the auspices of Belgium, has established. The most important of her domestic measures, has been to divorce her schools from ecclesiastical influence. A decree has already been enacted, requiring the children of all government officials to attend the public schools. On the 31st of March the senate passed an act providing that after five years, priests and nuns shall be excluded as teachers from all public schools. The act is pending before the Chamber of Deputies and will undoubtedly become a law.

On the 28th of December last, at the expiration of his first term of office, her president, M Grevy, was re-elected for seven years. He is the first ruler of France for sixty-five years, who has not either been deposed, or has resigned.

SPAIN.

Spain has kept herself free from wars. In fact, the decrepit condition of this once powerful monarchy, renders a peaceful

policy indispensable. Her king, Alfonzo, died in December last, and his five-year-old daughter now sits unsteadily upon the tottering throne, which in the palmy days of Spanish ascendancy was occupied by Ferdinand and Isabella. The Queen Mother, the Grand Duchess Maria Christina, of Austria, (whom Alfonzo married on the 29th of November 1879, after the death in June 1878, of his six months' bride, the fair young Mercedes,) is acting regent of the realm.

The progress of the age has impressed the tired old monarchy with the propriety of abolishing slavery in her West Indian possessions, which she has finally done.

RUSSIA.

Russia has been a prey to the plots of the nihilists ever since the close of the Turkish war. After several ineffectual attempts to assassinate the czar, the conspirators finally succeeded. On the 13th of May 1881, two dynamite bombs were thrown into his carriage which accomplished the fatal act. The present emperor, Alexander III, was crowned at Moscow May 27, 1883. The nihilists have made several ineffectual attempts to take his life but he has thus far escaped.

The great empire is not content with its boundless possessions. It has eaten off a large morsel of northern Afghanistan and is constantly gnawing at the edges of the Chinese empire. It is worthy of note that Russia limits her ambition to the acquisition of adjacent territory and her empire today, extensive as it is, is a compact territory. It is reported that she is about to establish a protectorate over Corea, which means the eventual gobbling up of that peninsula. How long she will be in absorbing the rest of Asia time alone can tell, but for a despotism torn by internal dissensions she has a grasping disposition, and a remarkably retentive faculty which holds her possessions well in hand.

Germany has been recuperating after her war with France and cultivating pleasant relations with the pope. Belgium has been establishing the great free state in Central Africa, but has recently been much disturbed at home by communists in strikes and labor riots, resulting in great destruction of property and loss of life. Italy has stretched forth her rejuvenated hand and established herself in a small way, on the eastern coast of Africa. Servia and Bulgaria got into a little squabble late in the fall, but the old folks put their hands on the boys' heads and said, "Boys be still," and they put on their caps and went home. The little Bantam, Greece, wants to enter the ring with Turkey but the sporting nations say no. And so the old world wags on.

On this side the Atlantic, history has not been neglected. Brazil has caught the spirit of the age and has provided for the gradual emancipation of her slaves. In the Argentine Confederation, Buenos Ayres got mad for a time and would not play with the other states but soon became reconciled.

Chili and Peru had a bloody main. In the spring of 1879, a misunderstanding arose between the two countries as to some guano beds on the western coast of South America. By way of taking off her coat for the fight, Chili ceded the barren province of Patagonia to the Argentine Confederation on the 27th of June, and began prosecuting the war vigorously. Bolivia was drawn into the contest as an ally of Peru, but their united forces were no match for the fiery Chilians. On the 17th of January 1882, Bolivia having enough of the contest, effected a peace with Chili, ceding her entire Pacific coast line, a fruitful region of guano and earthquakes, and retired from the contest. Peru kept up the unequal contest until her navy was demolished and her army annihilated. When there was no one left to fight, there was no one left to treat with for peace. A temporary government was patched up, and on the 20th of October 1883, a Treaty of Peace was signed. Peru has been in a state of anarchy whiq is still prevailing. Chili now extends like

a huge caterpillar nearly 3,000 miles in length, along the western coast of South America.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

On the 12th of February 1883, King Kalakaua was crowned sovereign of the Sandwich Islands. He shares the distinction with Dom Pedro of Brazil of being one of the only two sovereigns of the Western Hemisphere. He made a brief tour of our country in the early part of 1881, landing in San Francisco January 30, for the purpose of selecting a few of the more important improvements of our people for introduction into his realm. His name proved a stumbling-block to our reporters, and he was dubbed with the undignified sobriquet of King Calico. Long may he reign.

CANADA.

Our neighbor Canada has been peaceably inclined, although not without her domestic troubles. On the 23d of October 1883, Lord Lansdowne was inaugurated Governor-General of the province. During the winter of 1885 an educated but restless half-breed, named Louis Riel, incited a rebellion among the Indians and half-breeds of the western provinces, which assumed considerable proportions. Riel was captured, however, on the 16th of May and the rebellion quelled. It being Riel's second attempt to incite insurrection he was executed by hanging, at Regina, on the 16th of November last.

On the 17th of May 1885, the small-pox broke out in Montreal. The malady increased in virulence and during the fall months raged almost unchecked. The deaths numbered some 3000, but little more than one hundred of the victims being of the Protestant population.

On the 15th of June the Niagara Falls Park was opened. This is a kind of joint stock concern between Canada and the state of New York. By agreement the two parties purchased

the interests of the local proprietors and dedicated the great waterfall and the lands adjoining to public use. The premises are to be restored as nearly as practicable to a state of nature and the tribe of Hack-Drivers is to be transferred to a reservation in the far west. It is to be hoped that the Dominion authorities as well as those of the state of New York, will make and enforce stringent enactments prohibiting "going in swimming" in the river, as it is not safe.

NATIONAL EVENTS.

When I closed my last record the inoffensive President Hayes wielded the destinies of the nation. True to his promise when nominated for the presidency he did not seek a re-nomination. On the 2nd of June 1880, the Republican National Convention assembled at Chicago, and on the 8th, after an exciting contest, nominated General James A. Garfield of Ohio, for President and Chester S. Arthur of New York, for Vice-President. The Democratic Convention assembled in Cincinnati on the 22nd of June and nominated General Winfield S. Hancock for the presidency. Garfield and Arthur were elected November 2nd following, and were duly inaugurated on the 4th of March 1881.

A bitter factional fight arose between Senator Conkling of this state and the President, and when the President nominated Hon. William H. Robertson for collector of the Port of New York, on the 23d of March, Mr. Conkling exerted himself strenuously to defeat the confirmation. Foreseeing that he was to fail in this project, Mr. Conkling on the 16th of May resigned his seat in the senate, as did his colleague, Senator Platt. Both of them appeared before the legislature for vindication by re-election but failed, and New York was without representation in the United States senate until the 16th of July following.

Senator Conkling retired to private life and has since been successfully practicing law in the city of New York. His late prominence in the important investigation of the Broadway railroad franchise has led some of his political opponents to predict his return to active political life.

During the excitement occasioned by the political complications and on the 2d of July, President Garfield was fatally shot by an assassin named Guiteau, and died on the 19th of September following. Vice-President Arthur succeeded to the presidential chair and completed the term therein. On the 13th of February 1882, President Arthur nominated his political associate, Roscoe Conkling, for Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, which Mr. Conkling declined and the president then appointed our former townsman, the Hon. Samuel Blatchford to the position, in which he was promptly confirmed.

1882, JUNE 30.—Charles J. Guiteau, the assassin of President Garfield, was hanged in Washington.

1883, MAY 24.—The Brooklyn Bridge, the great mechanical wonder of the age, was opened to the public.

JUNE 4.—The first trains on the West Shore railroad begin running as far as Newburgh.

SEPT. 4.—The Northern Pacific Railroad from Duluth, Minnesota to Portland, Oregon, was completed, the last spike, a gold one, being driven at "Gold Spike," Montana. I presume "Gold Spike" is an important city by this time but I have not been successful in finding it on my map.

I pass over the events of 1882 and 1883 to the eventful year of 1884. On the 6th of May of this year the Marine Bank of New York failed, owing to the defalcations of Ferdinand Ward, the junior partner in the banking house of Grant & Ward. Financial disasters followed quickly one after the other, with astounding developments of rascality, upon a scale hitherto unknown in the history of finance. The bottom of financial integrity seemed to have wholly fallen out. Our neighboring

province of Canada proved an asylum for the afflicted, and more rascality crossed the border in the year succeeding than in any like period in our previous history. Auburn's population was however increased by one, for, on the 27th of June 1885, Mr. James D. Fish, president of the Marine Bank, was sentenced to the State Prison at Auburn for ten years, while on the 31st of October following, his co-partner in iniquity was sent to Sing Sing for the like term of ten years.

1884, MARCH 28.—Occurred one of the most formidable riots which this country has witnessed, and singularly enough it was a rising in behalf of law and order. The courts of justice of the city had become so shamefully derelict in their duty that the trial and acquittal of the most hardened criminals was of almost daily occurrence—and Cincinnati witnessed the singular anomaly of a mob clamoring and fighting for the enforcement of law and the promotion of justice.

1884, JULY 4.—The Bartholdi Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World was formally presented to the United States at Paris. On the 6th of August following the corner-stone for the base of the statue was laid on Bedloe's Island, at the entrance to New York harbor.

OCT. 14.—The N. Y. C. R. R. and the West Shore R. R. commenced a war of extermination. Passenger rates were reduced on both roads to one cent per mile, and so continued for nearly a year to the delight of the light-pursed traveler. The issue was easily foretold. The West Shore weakened and passed to the tender keeping of the New York Central for nurture and instruction as to how to run a railroad.

This again was presidential year. The Republicans put into the field James G. Blaine, long an aspirant for presidential honors. The Democrats pitted against him a comparatively new man in politics, Grover Cleveland, Governor of New York. The prohibitionists nominated J. P. St. John, and the Greenbackers

confided their standard to the keeping of the irrepressible Benjamin F. Butler.

The success of the Democratic ticket resulted in a political change in the national administration for the first time in twenty-four years. One of the last acts of the Republican administration was the tardy justice of placing General Grant upon the retired list of the army, with a salary of \$13,500.

On the 4th of March 1885, Grover Cleveland was inaugurated President, and the long lease of power passed quietly from the Republican party. On the day following the sun rose complacently as if no political earthquake had occurred.

I can only glance at a few of the succeeding events. On the 17th of June, the Bartholdi statue arrived in New York in charge of officers of the French navy, who were cordially received and hospitably entertained by the ever hospitable New Yorkers.

1885, JULY 23.—General Grant died at Mt. McGregor, near Saratoga.

My last record left the general on his way to the far east, after a reception by the dignitaries of Europe, such as had never before been accorded to an American citizen. After visiting Japan and China, where he was received with honors in no wise inferior to those accorded him in Europe, he turned his course homeward, reaching San Francisco, September 20, 1879, and on the 16th of December following, having completed the circuit of the world, he is honored with a grand reception at Philadelphia. The following winter he visited the West Indies and Mexico, returning through the southern states, where he was enthusiastically received by those who were lately in rebellion against the government he was fighting to preserve. On the 2d of June 1880, the Republican Convention met in the city of Chicago, and General Grant's name was for the third time presented to a Republican Convention as a candidate for the presidency. It was warmly pressed by his friends, led by the

Hon. Roseoe Conkling then senator from this state, but the partisan ery of "Third Term," the faactional division in the delegation from New York, resulted in his defeat although 304 delegates voted for him solidly from the first to the last ballot. General Garfield was nominated and General Grant retired to private life, if a life such as his could in any sense be called private. His subsequent career may be told in a few words. Taking up his residence in New York city he entered into the banking business with one Ferdinand Ward, who proved to be a rascal of the most unmitigated type. He cheated the confiding veteran out of every dollar of his fortune, and left him a pauper so far as his own means of support were concerned.

But the indomitable spirit of the great general proved equal to the occasion, and though death stared him in the face from disease whose cure no mortal skill could effect, he commenced his autobiography, at which he labored with a patience and persistence that was heroic, through long months of exhausting illness, and when his last work was completed, the grandest victory of his life was achieved, the noblest monument to his memory was finished. The nation stood silently watching the diminishing pulse beats, till at length the great warrior, released from care, strife, disappointment, the calumnies of party malice, the deceits of designing adventurers, sank to his rest with a record as clean, an honor as unsullied, and a career as noble as this or any other age can boast.

He was buried at Riverside Park, overlooking the Hudson, on the 8th of August 1885.

On the 14th and 16th of September 1885, occurred the great international yacht race in New York, between England and America, for the possession of the "America cup," a prize which our country won from England and still holds. The English cutter, "Genesta," was pitted against the "Puritan," but hadn't the speed to get away with the little Yankee craft,

and American models and seamanship still rule the wave for speed in sailing craft.

On the 10th of October the great dynamite explosion of Flood Rock in Hell Gate, at the entrance to Long Island Sound, took place. Some three acres of rock which had squatted here in the channel, ages and ages ago, went up in a terrific blast in a second of time and this great snag in the mouth of the harbor no longer remained to crush the inoffending craft for which it lay in wait.

1886, JANUARY 19.—The President approved the presidential succession bill. Hitherto in case of the death of the President, Vice-President, and Speaker of the House, the succession was not provided for. The fatality which has befallen our executive officers during the later administrations, rendered it a matter of wise prudence to provide more definitely for the succession. The bill now in force makes the cabinet officers in the order of station, the successors to the office of President in case of the death of both President and Vice-President.

I have too far exceeded my limits to pause more than to glance at the great labor troubles which are prevailing throughout the land.

On the 4th of February 1886, 27,000 street-car drivers struck in New York city for higher wages and less hours' work. Their demands were reasonable and were acceded to and they went to work again. Their success encouraged similar movements in other cities with like results. But a restlessness prevails in all branches of labor. On the 1st of March it was reported that there were 51,000 laborers out on strikes in the United States. Since then the great strike on the Jay Gould system of railroads at St. Louis and westward, have been inaugurated with disastrous results and with no present indication of compromise. It is earnestly to be hoped that prudence, intelligence, and justice will prevail, and that our land may be spared the direful scenes which the countries of the old world have so often witnessed, when labor and capital came in contact.

LOCAL EVENTS.

1879, FEB. 28.—The Governor signs the new city charter for Auburn, increasing the number of wards from seven to ten, and materially changing the organization of the city government. At the city election immediately succeeding, Hon. D. M. Osborne was elected mayor under the new charter.

1879, MARCH 11.—Seventy-five days' continuous sleighing are reported to date, indicating a "snug winter."

1879, APRIL 1.—The premonitory symptoms of the succeeding roller skating craze were developed by the opening of a roller skating school at the Academy of Music.

1879, JULY 5.—Governor Horatio Seymour addressed the prisoners of the state prison in their chapel, an event which elicited much favorable comment and not a little that was unfavorable, according to the political standpoint from which the critic viewed it. It is safe to say that notwithstanding Governor Seymour's political prominence, the address produced but little political effect upon his audience, and the wisdom of the act had a significance scarcely appreciable by those of an unthinking turn outside the prison walls.

1880, JAN. 1.—Every debtor is one per cent. richer today from the operation of the six per cent. interest law, which was enacted in March 1879.

1880, APRIL 1.—The letter-carrier system is inaugurated today, five carriers being put into service. Owing to the irregularity of street numbers, the system works somewhat unsatisfactorily at first, but the Common Council having ordered a re-numbering of residences and business houses, the innovation continued with increasing favor, and now is an established success, eight carriers being employed.

1880, AUG. 13.—The State Fireman's Convention is held, for which the streets are elaborately arched and decorated. The festivities are marred by the sad taking off of Chief Engineer Morris by his own hand.

1880, Oct. 26.—The presidential campaign being at its height, a Republican mass meeting in the interest of General Garfield was held at the Osborne store houses on Seymour street, which General Grant attended and made a brief speech in behalf of the Republican candidates. He was briefly entertained by General Seward and returned to Syracuse early in the evening.

1880.—The interest in military matters having greatly declined, Col. Storke of the 49th regiment tendered his resignation, and in September of this year the regiment was disbanded. In December following, a movement was set on foot to organize a separate independent military company. On the 17th of December an organization was effected and Mr. Gor ton W. Allen was elected captain, and Messrs. Wm. M. Kirby and Henry S. Dunning first and second lieutenants respectively. Mr. Allen declined the promotion on account of the pressure of private business, whereupon Lieut. W. M. Kirby was elected captain on the 3rd of January 1881. The company was mustered into service May 24th following with fifty-eight men, and on the 8th of June chose the name of the "Wheeler Rifles," in honor of Mayor Wheeler. The company has since maintained a creditable organization besides keeping possession of the state armory, and is a terror to organized evil doers, if any such characters may be presumed to be in existence in our city.

1881, MARCH 21.—The subsequently distinguished firm of Watson & Neyhart opened their broker's office, at No. 82 Genesee street.

1881, MAY 2.—George B. Lightfoot, the first colored policeman upon the Auburn force, is appointed and enters upon his duties the 4th.

1881, MAY 24.—The early closing movement is inaugurated—the stores closing at 6:00 P. M. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

In June of this year the Revised New Testament reaches Auburn.

1881, DEC. 19.—The Common Council orders the street names to be prepared and properly posted for each street and the service is performed in July and August of 1882.

1882, MARCH 1.—Postmaster E. D. Woodruff assumes charge of the post-office and improves the office by extensive renovations and repairs.

1882—In March the American Express Company inaugurates in this city, the system of express money orders.

1882, JUNE 7.—Sam. Williams, colored, is convicted at Lyons, Wayne county, of the murder of a colored man named Hall, at Sodus in the winter previous, and is sentenced to be hanged July 27th. Williams was granted a new trial upon which he was acquitted on the 22nd of December 1883.

1882, JUNE 14.—Gen. John N. Knapp is appointed collector of internal revenue for this district by the President and is confirmed July 1st, following. By the consolidation of districts General Knapp was relieved from service in July 1883.

1882, SEPT. 1.—The Texas cattle fever having made its appearance in the vicinity of Auburn, the State Board of Health examine into the matter and order twenty-seven head of affected cattle in the adjoining town of Sennett to be killed and buried.

1883, JULY 1.—The law abolishing the use of two cent stamps for checks goes into operation, and the new postal money order system goes into effect; the first order from the Auburn office being issued September 3rd, following. The "trade dollar" goes into disgrace and is refused by government authorities.

1883, OCT. 1.—A letter can be sent by mail to any place in the United States today for two cents, the law reducing postage from three to two cents taking effect today. This of course applies only to letters weighing a half ounce or less, which is

deemed sufficient for an ordinary business communication. For the benefit of voluminous correspondents, the limit of weight was increased to one ounce, on October 1st, 1885, and the immediate delivery system took effect by which upon paying ten cents extra, a letter is delivered by special messenger immediately upon its receipt.

1884, JAN. 21.—The trial of Franz Josef Petmeky for murder commenced. He was convicted on the 24th and sentenced to be hanged March 21st.

JAN. 22.—The Gentlemen's Club is organized. In the spring following it established itself in the Club House, corner of Genesee and Fort streets, which it has since occupied.

FEB. 14.—A freight train on the Southern Central Railroad breaks through the bridge across the Seneca river, and the engineer, fireman, and a brakeman are drowned.

DEC. 11.—The Princess Skating Rink opened.

DEC. 17.—Dr. Oliver S. Taylor celebrates his one hundredth anniversary.

1885, JAN. 5.—The firm of Watson, Cox & Co., brokers, is dissolved; the Auburn members of the firm taking quarters with Sheriff Myers. The firm was organized in 1880, as Watson & Neyhart. Mr. Neyhart retiring, Mr. Ashby succeeded him and a New York broker, named Cox, was introduced. The firm did a large business in the purchase and sale of stocks, and great expectations of large fortunes were indulged in, which I regret to say, were not in all cases realized. Some misunderstanding having arisen between the firm and its patrons, the business office was removed and negotiations were carried on at the jail until the 8th of May, when the restrained brokers were honorably discharged.

1885, JAN. 18.—A religious revival service was inaugurated at the Princess Rink which was rented for the occasion. On Monday the 19th, the Rev. George F. Pentecost, D. D. of Brooklyn arrived and took charge of the meetings, which were

continued in the rink each evening until February 1st. Dr. Pentecost was assisted by a Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins of Brooklyn, as vocalists.

1885, FEB. 1.—The St. Alphonsus Church, German Catholic, having undergone some repairs is re-dedicated by Bishop McQuaid.

FEB. 28.—Congressman Payne secures a congressional appropriation of \$150,000 for a government building in Auburn.

MARCH 29.—The congregation of the First Baptist Church hold their last service in the old church, which is subsequently sold to Ald. Henry Traub and converted into a furniture store.

APRIL 16.—The Genesee Skating Rink opens for the last time, the company having become consolidated with the Princess Rink Company and the enthusiasm having subsided to the extent of rendering one rink sufficient for the popular demand for roller skating.

1885, MAY 28.—The Owasco lake steamer Ensenore, is launched and duly christened by the present esteemed president of the Cayuga County Historical Society.

JUNE 28.—The distinguished banker, James D. Fish, takes up his abode in the Auburn Prison for ten years, less commutation for good behavior.

JULY 13.—The Common Council orders the extension of Green street, from Clark to Genesee street. The cost for land taken and damages to property owners was assessed Sept. 1st, at \$18,418.88. The street demolishes the eastern end of the Princess Rink, which felt the first blow of devastation April 5 1886.

1885, AUG. 17.—Prof. M. L. Browne announces the discontinuance of the Young Ladies' Institute, a school which he had conducted with varying degrees of pecuniary success for thirty years.

SEPT. 1.—The Young Men's Christian Association move their quarters from the Academy of Music Block into their

new building, which is nearing completion. On the 18th of December following the new building was formally opened.

OCT. 19.—The Seward Post of the Grand Army of the Republic starts for Richmond, to enjoy the hospitalities of the R. E. Lee Post Confederate Volunteers, whom they had entertained acceptably on Decoration Day previous.

Nov. 11.—The commission appointed to select a site for the new government building agree upon the lot at the corner of Genesee street and Green street extended, taking therefor the Underwood lot now owned by Mr. Anthony Shimer, the lot of Dr. George next west, and the Groot house and lot owned by Mr. C. S. Burtis, next west of Dr. George. The selection was confirmed by government and notice of confirmation received by Mayor Wheeler, March 31, 1886.

In December of this year Westlake avenue, extending from Fort street through to Court street and connecting with Linden Place, is opened.

1886, FEB. 12.—The will of the late Lyman Soule is presented to the surrogate for probate. As the will will doubtless be contested, the final settlement of the estate will be indefinitely deferred.

MARCH 4.—Gilmore's Band gave an afternoon and evening concert at the Princess Rink. Those who were there in the evening need not be assured that it was a fair house after one got inside.

MARCH 10.—Rev. A. S. Hughey is installed as pastor of "Westminster Church." I was in doubt where to locate the edifice with so pretentious a name, until I by chance identified it as the Willard Chapel, on West Genesee street.

MARCH 22.—The announcement is made that the fare to San Francisco is reduced to \$45. Many a "Forty-Niner" will wish that he had waited till this time, so that he could avail himself of the "cut" in rates.

APRIL 5.—The president appoints William J. Moses as postmaster at Auburn, in place of Mr. E. D. Woodruff, whose term had expired. Mr. Moses is the first Democratic postmaster in Auburn, since Col. Charles W. Pomroy retired in 1861.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—ARCHITECTURAL AND OTHERWISE.

1879.—The St. James Hotel having become tenantless, the owner, Mr. Anthony Shimer, instituted a series of changes and improvements, involving the extension of the front out even with the street, fitting the same up for stores, with hotel attachment above and in the rear. Mr. Shimer, being the architect and boss workman, the work progressed somewhat slowly and was still incomplete when the building was burned, on the 26th of March 1884, an account of which is among the records of the society.

1879.—In May, was commenced the Hose and Truck House, in the rear of the City Hall, extending from Market to Franklin street.

1879, JULY 9.—The Garrow street school building was commenced and the building was completed in September following. The Division street school building was much enlarged at the same time. During the same summer, the Button Factory on Logan street, was much enlarged and the manufacture of silk introduced.

1879.—The Ross Block on the west side of State street near the State Armory, was erected during the fall of this year.

1879, OCT. 6.—The Telephone Company commenced the erection of a tower on the museum building, and the present telephone system was inaugurated immediately thereafter. The office was removed to its present location in Mr. D. A. Smith's store, Dec. 30, 1881.

1880.—The trustees of the Auburn City Hospital, having purchased the old Dr. Lansing homestead on North street, the

house was refitted and formally opened for the purposes of the Hospital, April 20, 1880.

1880, MAY 25.—The corner-stone of St. John's Church (Episcopal) at the junction of Fulton and East Genesee streets, was laid. The church edifice was completed during the year following and opened for service, Sept. 4, 1881.

1880, SUNDAY, AUG. 26.—The corner-stone of St. Mary's parochial school on Clark street, was laid by Bishop McQuaid, and the building was completed and school opened therein on the 10th of January following.

1880.—In September was commenced the work of replacing the wooden pavement of State street from Dill to the bridge with Medina sandstone. The work continued until the northern end froze up, and was not completed until the following spring.

1880, Oct. 6.—The E. D. Clapp Wagon Company was organized, and commenced the erection of the extensive workshops on the west side of Division street, since used by them. The works were started January 22d, 1881, since which time the big whistle has daily reminded us of this important industry.

1880, Oct. 10.—St. Joseph's Cemetery, R. C., near the foot of Owasco lake, was consecrated by Bishop McQuaid.

1880.—During the summer of 1880, the D. M. Osborne Mower and Reaper Company commenced a series of additions to their workshops on the west side of Mechanic street, and built two large storhouses on the east side of the Central railroad, north of Seymour street, and in the following March 1881, commenced the erection of their present extensive Rolling Mill Works in the northern part of the city.

1881, APRIL 4.—The belt street-car line opened, the track through North to Franklin street having been removed and connection being made through Seminary avenue. The roads were consolidated and placed under the management of a com-

pany of which Hon. D. M. Osborne is president, September 22, 1882.

1881, APRIL 30.—Aldermen Bell and Webster, of the Common Council, visit Troy to see the big bell cast, for which the Council had contracted, to be placed in the City Hall tower for a fire alarm. On the 12th of May following the bell was put in position, and being tested on the 19th, was pronounced inadequate. It was returned on the 24th, and June 17th following, the present bell weighing 6,300 lbs., was substituted and has since done duty as a fire alarm bell.

1881, MAY 2.—Hose 6, known as the Alerts, dedicate their new hose house, corner of State and VanAnden streets, by a house-warming.

1881, JULY 18.—Supt. Underwood commenced extensive improvements in the City Hall park, spading up and leveling off the surface, sowing it to red-top and timothy and enclosing it with a modest railing. The work exhausted the better part of three days and has since afforded a pleasant outlook for the City Hall dignitaries.

1881, AUG. 10.—The first train over the Ithaca, Auburn & Western Railroad, ran into Auburn in charge of Col. F. T. Peet, the superintendent of the road, who officiated as engineer for the occasion. On the 31st of August following, an excursion party from the south part of the county over the road, was given a public reception in the Academy of Music.

1881, SEPT. 30.—The E. M. Birdsall Manufacturing Company organized and commenced the manufacture of portable engines etc., in the old Cayuga Chief shops, which the D. M. Osborne Co. had lately vacated to occupy their new shops on Mechanic street and at the Rolling Mill.

1881, OCT. 12.—St. Lucas German Protestant Church on Seminary avenue is dedicated, "after four years of passions and struggles."

1881.—In the summer of 1881 the great second ward sewer

was commenced, which was completed in the fall of the year following at an expense of about \$30,000.

1881.—The N. Y. C. R. R. demolished the old workshops north of the present depot, during the latter part of 1881 and the beginning of 1882, devoting the lands upon which the shops stood to sidings.

1882, APRIL 17.—The corner-stone of the new county clerk's office was laid. The building was completed and occupied about the middle of March, 1883.

The Madison avenue school building was erected during the summer of this year, but was not ready for occupancy till February 26, 1883.

1882. AUG.—Mayor Wheeler began his fine block of flats for residences on William street, which were not completed and occupied till the spring of 1884.

In the fall of this year, the present residence of Mr. John H. Osborne and that of Mr. G. W. Allen on South street were begun.

1882.—Ross Place was opened in August 1882 and graded the winter following. The residences of Mr. E. D. Clapp and Mr. Charles L. Sheldon were improved about the same time.

OCTOBER 9.—The suggestive name of "Love Lane" was officially changed to "Linden Place."

OCTOBER 14.—The D. M. Osborne Co. commenced building their railroad along the bank of the outlet to their works on Genesee street from the N. Y. C. R. R. depot. The work was nearly a year under way, the dummy making its first trip, Oct. 5, 1883.

In October of this year, the New York Central R. R. Co., commenced the present stone freight house.

1883.—In the early summer of this year the First Presbyterian Church Parsonage, corner of Franklin and Holly streets, was begun.

MAY 22.—The Water Works Company began extending its main pipes to the Owasco lake.

During the summer of this year the Evans street school house was built and the hose house of Letchworth Hose 5 on Fulton street.

JULY 17.—The corner-stone of the Second Baptist Church at the junction of Genesee and Owasco streets was laid. This edifice occupies the site of the ancient and somewhat disreputable pile familiarly known as the "Codfish Block," which residents in the immediate vicinity were glad to aid in purchasing and donating to the church, thereby ridding themselves and the street of a nuisance.

The church was completed and dedicated April 13, 1884.

1883.—The South street, Hamilton avenue, and MacDougall street sewers were built during the summer, connecting with the great second ward sewer.

SEPT. 9.—The Soule Cemetery in the town of Sennett, east of Auburn, a gift of Lyman Soule to the city, is dedicated.

SEPTEMBER.—The Harrington Block on Dill street is begun and the Harrington House was opened as a Temperance Hotel, April 1, 1884.

OCT. 1.—The work of paving Water street with Medina stone is commenced.

The cottages of Mrs. George Underwood and Mr. Joseph N. Steel on the west side of South street erected.

OCT. 30.—The Thomson-Houston Company commence stringing wires in the streets for the electric light. On the evening of November 28 following, the first electric street lights were lighted, although Mr. D. M. Osborne had been using them in his works for nearly a year previous. On the 27th of January 1884, the old First Baptist Church was lighted by the electric light. On the 28th of January the Common Council adopted the Thomson-Houston system, but the proprietors of the Brush-Swan system having made a proposition, the Common Council on the 1st of February squabble over the two systems. On the 29th of March the Brush-Swan Company placed lights upon

a staff on the Auburn Savings Bank tower and at several places in the streets. Then the Thomson-Houston placed lights upon a staff on the Court House cupola and for some months portions of the city were brilliantly lighted by contesting companies, without expense to the city. On the 9th of October 1884, the Common Council ordered a contract to be made with the Thomson-Houston Company for lighting some of the principal streets, which the mayor vetoed. The Council passed the resolution over the mayor's veto and the contract was duly executed. The official lighting of the streets by the electric light commenced Dec. 15, 1884.

1883, DEC. 27.—The new Methodist Sunday School Chapel in rear of the church on South street, was dedicated.

1884, FEB. 27.—Letchworth Hose 2 open their newly completed hose house on Fulton street.

APRIL 4.—The Hardenberg House in the rear of City Hall is sold to Max Volkman, who converted it into a hotel and opened it as such June 28 following.

APRIL.—The fine residence of Mr. W. H. Ernsberger on East Genesee street is begun.

APRIL 28.—The upper end of State street is torn up for paving with Medina stone.

1884, JUNE 3.—Corner-stone of the First Baptist Church was laid. The church is located on the corner of Genesee and James streets. The work was commenced in the fall of 1883. The edifice with the exception of the tower is completed and was first occupied for service June 23, 1885.

1884, JULY 15.—The block of Orlando Lewis on East Genesee street east of his flouring mill is erected.

Mr. E. H. Avery's block on State street next north of the Gaylord House is built.

JULY 27.—The Salvation Army Barracks on the Shimer lot dedicated.

1884, AUG. 14.—The Princess Rink on the Shimer property was begun.

AUG. 27.—The excavation for the foundation of the new Y. M. C. A. building is completed and the corner-stone of the building was laid on the 30th of September following.

1884, SEPT. 11.—The Genesee street skating rink was opened in a building just completed, on the site of the old Richardson livery stable.

1884, OCT. 15.—The Overland Telephone Co. is organized and during the following months strung its wires throughout the city from the tower at the corner of Genesee and North streets. The wires have ever since maintained a respectful silence in deference to an injunction served upon the company by the Bell Telephone Co.

During the fall of this year the Genesee street sewer from about the middle of the Exchange Block to the outlet was enlarged and deepened so as to drain the cellar of the Young Men's Christian Association building.

The portion of Genesee street from State down to the middle of the Exchange Block was paved with Medina stone the summer previous.

Nov. 30.—The Willard Chapel on West Genesee street is dedicated. October 27, 1885, the society is organized as a church.

1885, APRIL.—Mr. Shimer during the fall of 1884 having excavated the cellar of the Underwood house to a fabulous depth for the building sand and gravel which he discovered there in abundance, commences his improvements upon the house. The roof is raised up about four feet on stilts where it has ever since remained, defying the most furious winds to disturb it. The front of the house was removed and the incipient stages of extending the front to the street and converting the residence into stores were undertaken and a partition wall some ten feet high carried out to the street. The improvement has since been taking a rest, partially on account of the probable selection of the site for a government building and partially because

the proprietor was busy elevating the Opera House into a man-trap with stores beneath. Now that the government has decided to condemn the Underwood property for its own use, Shimer's crowning project for the improvement of the western part of the city by converting the entire north side of Genesee street into grocery stores will probably not be realized.

1885, MAY 1.—The improvement of the National Hotel property is begun. The wooden part long known as "Parmelee's Tavern" is demolished and a fine brick building erected on its site. The hotel was completed during the summer and fall and formally opened as the New National Hotel on the 23rd of December.

A fine block of two stores was, during the same period, erected on the vacant lot adjoining on the east.

JUNE 28.—The First Baptist Society occupy the audience room in the new church at the corner of James and Genesee streets.

1885, SEPT. 14.—The first stone of the Aurelius avenue bridge is laid. This is an historic structure. I find that in my first record of April 1877, the "Aurelius Avenue Bridge" is constantly occupying the attention of the Common Council and much eloquence was poured forth both in favor of a stone bridge and against it. On the 4th of June 1877, the Council adopted a resolution to build a "two-arch stone bridge" at the Aurelius avenue crossing. The project was contrary to the conception of the executive as to a due regard for the interests of the tax-payer and on the 12th of June a veto of the project by the mayor was announced. The parties interested were not to be put down without an effort for success. Their persistency has been rewarded and the Aurelius avenue bridge will eventually become a fixed fact. I am glad that the project was not brought to completion earlier as it is a fruitful theme for historical notes. On the 4th of November 1885, the Common Council annulled the contract for the building of the bridge

on account of the unsatisfactory progress of the work and the Council took the completion of it into its own hands. Whether this action will invest the mayor with the honorary title of *Pontifex Maximus* is uncertain, but we shall probably hear more of the "Aurelius avenue bridge," as the contractor, the doughty Luther G. Perkins is jealous of his reputation and zealous in defending it.

1886, JAN. 8.—The toboggan slide was opened. The slide is on the west side of South street opposite Swift street. It consists of an artificial chute some 25 feet in height with a sharp incline of some 160 feet and a natural descent of some forty rods farther in an open field. The toboggan may be described in a general way as a thin board some eighteen inches wide and four feet or more in length, with the forward end turned over in a graceful curve. This is taken to the top of the chute loaded with two or more passengers according to its capacity or the inclination of the parties and fired off. The steersman sits at the rear using an extended leg for a rudder. A lady passenger is essential, as ladies hang on best and have the most felicitous selection of adjectives to describe the trip.

Tobogganing is an importation from Canada. It is a kind of gilt-edged riding-down hill. It can be indulged in, in an ordinary suit, but the perfection of enjoyment is only reached when you are clad in a flannel rig prepared expressly for the exercise, of such color or colors and general make-up as will most completely disguise you from yourself and your most intimate friends.

Tobogganning will hardly reach the distinction of a national diversion, for the reason that ice is an essential element to its perfection, and it will necessarily be limited to the high latitudes of our country.

Of the indoor amusements which have prevailed since I last wrote, I must not fail to speak. Some three years ago, a game known as "commerce" had a popular run. I think it was sub-

stantially a game of ordinary whist, the parties scoring the most games for the evening securing the prize which in some instances was valuable enough to arouse considerable interest.

During the past winter, "progressive euchre" has been the rage. The ordinary game of euchre is played at several tables the winning parties advancing from the lower to the higher tables at the close of each game. The parties securing the greatest number of games at the highest table secure the first prize and those losing most games secure the "booby" prize. The intervening tables are known as "love tables" and are quite popular with the majority of the party although no prizes may be secured thereat.

Still another game known as "progressive bean bag" has its admirers with those who fear the influence of cards. It consists in pitching a small bag of beans across the room at a hole in a board and is governed by rules similar to those of progressive euchre. It is a modification of the old-fashioned recreation of pitching copper cents.

The most remarkable craze that our community and in fact our whole country has witnessed has been the roller skating amusement. During the summer of 1884 the Shimer Opera House was given over to the amusement. Everybody who went became infatuated with the exercise and in the fall of that year two large skating rinks, the Genesee and Princess, were erected. Professional skaters, some of home talent, others from abroad, alternated with amateurs and "new beginners" in gliding over the smooth floors; polo games and other attractions drew crowds of spectators and nearly all ordinary amusements seemed abandoned for roller skating. But the excitement died out as suddenly as it arose and the rinks of today can scarcely present an attraction sufficient to draw a paying audience.

The Salvation Army invaded this country in March 1880. The invading force consisted of seven women and one man who landed in New York from an English steamer. After no

little skirmishing in the metropolis the army established itself there and began extending its lines. On the 20th of March 1883, an outpost was established in the neighboring city of Syracuse. The predominance of the rough element in the City of Salt, rendered the attack upon that stronghold of sin of questionable issue, but after considerable rough handling and occasional imprisonment, the army still holds the fort. On the 4th of February 1884, Capt. Evans reconnoitered Auburn and effected a lease of Tallman Hall at the corner of State and Dill streets for one year from April 1st following, with the privilege of five for the barracks of the detachment to be sent here.

On Sunday, April 6, 1884, the army made its first reconnoissance in force. The host consisted of Capt. Whiteside, "Salvation Carpenter," and Lassies Capt. Brock and Lieut. Darrow. After a noisy street parade the army called a halt and held its first meeting on the steps in front of the Court House. From this time on parades were made each evening, with singing, dancing and tambourine playing by the army, accompanied by hooting, crowding, jostling and pelting with missiles of various kinds, by the following crowd of hoodlum boys. On the first of May the proprietor of Tallman Hall barricaded the barracks, in other words locked the army out, declared them a nuisance in that they made so much noise late into the night that his horses could not sleep in the neighboring stable.

The army submitted to the inevitable and took up its quarters at No. 13 Wall street, where it remained until the 23rd of May when it established head-quarters at the African Zion Methodist Episcopal Church on Washington St. Negotiations were opened with Mr. Anthony Shimer for leasing a lot in the rear of the Underwood house for the erection of barracks. The Common Council declined permission for the erection of barracks according to the original plan, but the army equal to the emergency surrounded the Council by building of brick

for which no permission was required, and the present barracks were opened on the 27th of July following.

The army has come to be an established feature of our city. It parades nightly at 8 o'clock, unmolested, the novelty having worn off and the police having proved efficient. A snare drum, a bass drum, three or four tambourines and at one time a French horn, make sufficient din to attract the attention of all within hearing distance. The body composed mostly of women marches in a hollow parallelogram, at times singing their characteristic songs, the leaders hippity-hopping backwards, beating time with their elbows, and manifesting an exuberance of spirits which is heightened by a pouring rain or drifting snow. The uniform of the males is whatever the fancy dictates, the more ludicrous the better. That of the females is a plain blue gown relieved in some instances by a red trimming and a dark poke bonnet with a red band.

The army does not perceptibly increase in number although they claim to have secured many recruits who have united with various churches. It claims to reach an element in community which no other influence does or can, and if there are sinners who can be tambourined into righteousness whom other appliances would fail to reach, we bid the Salvation Army God-speed in its mission. One or two episodes I must not omit to mention. Whether because the army became imbued with the spirit of our revolutionary forefathers, or from some other cause I will not stop to inquire, but after it became established in our land, some of the leaders took it upon themselves to rebel against the authority of their English officers and set up for themselves as an American organization. The sympathizers with the foreign organization did not yield readily and on the 7th of December 1884, Maj. Moore came here in the interests of the original army and held a jubilee at the Academy of Music on the 10th. Both armies paraded the streets but no collision occurred. The doughty major skirmished in the city

for a time but finally left the field, which has since been occupied without molestation by the American branch. The Salvation Army of America was officially incorporated by papers filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Albany, March 26, 1885.

1885, MARCH 4.—A hallelujah wedding was held at the barracks. Capt. Penny of Rochester became smitten with the charms of Capt. Mary Smith of the Auburn corps, and their fortunes were united with great rejoicings of the rank and file of the army who devoted the day to feasting mentally and physically.

FIRES.

1879, MARCH 18.—Burr & Thorne's Flouring Mill on the Owasco outlet above D. M. Osborne & Co's Reaper Works burned in the early evening.

Nov. 17.—The building in the prison occupied by Hayden & Smith for the manufacture of saddlery hardware.

1880, MAY 31.—Bell's livery stable on Garden street partially consumed by fire.

JUNE 17.—The rear addition of the Osborne House burned, at which time young Chadderdon was killed by a falling wall.

1882, MAY 8.—The Home of the Friendless on Grant avenue was partially destroyed by fire.

1883, MAY 19.—Richardson's livery stable in Genesee street east of Lewis' Mill was burned. It was originally built for a freight depot for the Auburn & Syracuse Railway.

1884, MARCH 26.—The remodeled St. James Hotel, vacant as a hotel but with occupied front stores, was burned during a pouring rain in the afternoon and in the presence of a vast crowd of spectators.

1885, JAN. 10.—The Parmelee malt house on Barber street west of Washington street is burned.

FEB. 10.—Hurd's Planing Mill on Dill street goes up in flames.

MARCH 22.—Pimm's clothing store on Genesee street just west of State is burned. The owner of the building is uninsured as is all of Mr. Shimer's property.

SEPT. 27.—Shimer's barn on west Genesee street adjoining his extensive lumber yard is burned. A horse perished in the flames but the lumber yard escaped injury.

1886, JAN. 4.—Quite an extensive fire occurred at the Clapp Manufactory destroying the plant of the Rolling Mill and involving a reported loss of \$40,000.

DISASTERS.

The appalling disasters which have been happening from time to time would make too long a list for me to present here. I note only a few of the more important.

1881, APRIL 3.—An earthquake occurred at Scio in the Grecian Archipelago by which 18,000 persons were injured or killed.

December 8 of the same year the Ring theater at Vienna in Austria was burned and 734 persons perished in the flames.

1883.—In the latter part of July a terrible earthquake visited the Island of Java and vicinity in the East Indies by which it is estimated that 75,000 lives were lost.

The Mediterranean Islands and countries have been visited with similar disasters from time to time but I will not stop to give the details.

1886.—On the 14th of March of the present year the Cunard Steamer Oregon was sunk near the entrance to New York harbor by collision with a mysterious vessel, no tidings of which have been obtained. Happily the entire number of the passengers and crew of the Oregon were rescued by passing vessels but the strange circumstances attending the destruction of this noble ship render it one of the most remarkable disasters of the age.

While our own land has been free from pestilence and plague the outside world has not escaped. In the fall of 1883 the cholera prevailed to an alarming extent in Egypt there being upwards of 27,000 victims. In the summer of 1884 it crossed the Mediterranean and invaded the southern part of France where it carried off many victims. In the early summer of 1885, the same disease devastated Spain with increasing violence there being 5000 new cases reported on August 5. Happily the precaution of the authorities limited the ravages of the disease to the south of Europe and the fears of its extending to this country are allayed.

Our own land has not however been free from disaster from natural causes. In 1882 during the month of February the Mississippi overflowed its banks causing an immense loss of property and life. In 1883 from Feb. 3 to 15 occurred a great flood in the lower Ohio valley which was very destructive to property. Again in 1884 from February 3 to 14 the Ohio was flooded, the river rising seventy feet at Cincinnati and destroying a vast amount of property. On this occasion congress made an appropriation of \$200,000 for the sufferers, the first instance of a like appropriation in the history of our country.

Locally the most notable visitation we have had was the Texas cattle plague which broke out in the latter part of August 1882. The State Board of Health looked into the matter and ordered 28 head of cattle to be killed and buried, in the adjoining town of Sennett, to prevent the spread of the disease.

NECROLOGY.

My necrological record has surprised me by its extent. Although selecting only here and there a name of one more prominently known, the list has grown far beyond what I had anticipated. As I glance at the long-familiar names of the departed, grouped together here on my pages, I seem to be traversing an Auburn of the past, and my being here today partakes of the

nature of a dream. How real must be the solitude of old age when the friends and companions of younger days have been gathered in an earlier harvest.

I have classified my record, placing first some of the dignitaries of the world who have been summoned from their posts of honor and seats of power. Following these is a limited list of distinguished characters in our own land. I confess that I have been surprised at the magnitude of this list. I dropped into the establishment of one of my aldermanic friends the day after the death of General Hancock when he vigorously assured me, "I declare, so many big men dying now-a-days, it makes me feel *scared*."

Then follows a list of some of the more distinguished authors whose pens are laid aside forever, then the local death roll, fathers and mothers of households, young, middle aged, venerable.

I have been surprised at the advanced age which many of our people reach, and it is apparent to any one who looks at the record that the longevity of the later generations far exceeds that of those who preceded us by no more than a half century.

I have prepared the list chiefly for purpose of reference.

FOREIGN DIGNITARIES.

1879, FEB. 21.—Shere Ali, Ameer of Afghanistan age 55. He had reigned since 1863, one year excepted.

JUNE 1—In South Africa, killed by the Zulus, Prince Louis Napoleon only son of Napoleon III and the Empress Eugenie age 23.

1881, MARCH 13.—Alexander II, Emperor of Russia, assassinated by Nihilists age 63.

APRIL 19.—At London Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield age 81.

JULY 18.—At London Arthur Penrhyn Stanly, Dean of Westminster age 68, familiarly known as Dean Stanly.

1882, MAY 6.—Lord Frederick C. Cavendish, Chief Secretary of Ireland, assassinated in Phoenix Park Dublin.

JUNE 2.—At Caprera on the Island of Sicily the Italian hero and patriot, Guiseppe Garibaldi, age 76.

1883, JULY 13.—Ranavaolna II, Queen of Madagascar.

1883, JULY 20.—Tuduc, King of Anam in Asia after a reign of 36 years. His successor died Aug. 2, 1884.

1884, JUNE 21.—The Prince of Orange, Crown Prince of the Netherlands, at The Hague age 32.

1885, APRIL 27.—At Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, Emma, Queen Dowager, age 49.

1885, JULY 22.—El Mahdi, the false prophet of the Soudan is reported dead of small-pox.

1885, NOV. 25.—At Madrid, Alfonso, King of Spain, age 29, leaving his 5-year-old daughter Mercedes to succeed, under the regency of the Queen Dowager Christina.

1885, SEPT. 16.—At St. Thomas, Canada, the mastodontic monarch of the animal kingdom, Jumbo. I have been at a loss how to classify this famous pachyderm and perhaps I err in naming him among the foreign dignitaries. He had been a resident of the United States some three years having landed in New York April 8, 1882 and of course was not entitled to citizenship. He was a native of India and came to Paris at an early age to secure an education. Thence he went to England and took a prominent part in the athletic sports of the zoological garden. It was here that the great American Barnum made his acquaintance and entered into negotiations by which Jumbo was to take up his abode in the new world. He was the largest known animal in the world. He stood eleven feet eleven inches high (Barnum's measurement) in his stocking feet. He had contracted some bad habits in his travels. He chewed tobacco and drank whiskey, but had too much self-respect to smoke a cigarette. He was a kindly disposed pet and will be much missed by the children, although they will

be permitted to gaze upon his stuffed hide and fleshless bones, before they are consigned to the keeping of his legatees, the Bates College and the Smithsonian Institute. I notice that Barnum has purchased Alice the widow of Jumbo, who did not accompany her husband to this country.

Jumbo was killed by being run into by an alien train of cars during a temporary sojourn in Canada. As he was not a naturalized citizen government can of course take no official cognizance of the circumstances attending his death, but in the arbitration of the fishery question now in contemplation, this indignity to a guest of the nation might properly and profitably be considered.

1879, MARCH 6.—At New Britain, Conn., Elihu Burritt, the Learned Blacksmith age 68.

APRIL 4.—At Philadelphia, Pa., Madame Jerome Bonaparte age 94.

APRIL 21.—At New York, General John A. Dix age 81.

MAY 24.—At New York, William Lloyd Garrison, philanthropist age 75.

SEPT. 17.—At New York, Daniel Drew, a prominent financier age 82.

OCT. 31.—At Garden City, L. I., Major General Joseph Hooker, familiarly known as "Fighting Joe Hooker" age 66.

1880, OCT. 2 —At Bronxville, Westchester Co. Rev. Dr. Samuel Hanson Cox age 87, father of James R. Cox, Esq., of this city.

NOV. 10.—At Philadelphia, Pa., Lucretia Mott age 87, philanthropist, sister of Mrs. David Wright of this city.

DEC. 26.—At New York, Rev. Dr. Edwin H. Chapin a distinguished divine of the Universalist denomination age 65.

1881, FEB. 13.—At Hot Springs, Ark., Fernando Wood age 69, son-in-law of the late Judge Richardson of this city.

MAY 25.—At New York, Commodore Nutt age 37.

1881, SEPT. 13.—General Ambrose E. Burnside age 58.

SEPT. 19.—President James A. Garfield age 49, assassinated July 2d by Charles J. Guiteau.

DEC. 17.—Dr. Isaac I. Hayes, Arctic explorer, aged 49.

1882, JULY 16.—At Springfield, Ill., Mrs. Abraham Lincoln age 67.

NOV. 22.—At New York, Thurlow Weed, editor and politician age 86.

1883, FEB. 14.—Hon. Edwin D. Morgan, the "War Governor" of New York age 72. His wife died March 26, 1885 age 74.

MARCH 4.—At Atlanta, Ga., Alexander H. Stephens age 71, a prominent southern statesman, governor of Georgia and vice-president of the late southern confederacy.

APRIL 4.—At New York, Peter Cooper, philanthropist, age 93.

JUNE 21.—At New York, Charles Backus age 51, a famous negro minstrel.

JULY 15.—At Middleboro, Mass. Charles Haywood Stratton age 46, more widely known as "General Tom Thumb."

1884, FEB. 2.—At Boston, Wendell Phillips age 72.

MARCH 18.—At New York, Madame Anna Bishop age 70.

MAY 12.—At Nantucket, Mass., Charles O'Connor, a distinguished lawyer of New York.

JUNE 8.—At Montreal, Canada, Henry G. Vennor age 44, a distinguished weather prophet.

1884, July 10.—At New Orleans, Paul Morphy, aged 47, the the champion chess player of the world.

JULY 22.—Mrs. Jane Grey Swisshelm aged 68, a distinguished abolitionist and advocate of woman's rights.

SEPT. 4.—At Geneva, Charles J. Folger, Secretary of Treasury, U. S., age 66.

NOV. 26.—At New York, Henry Ivison age 76.

1885, JAN. 13.—At Mankato, Minn., Schuyler Colfax, ex-Vice-President age 62.

JULY 23.—At Mt. McGregor, N. Y., Gen. Ulysses S. Grant age 63.

AUG. 25.—At Jamestown, N. Y., Ex Governor Reuben E. Fenton age 66.

OCT. 9.—At New York, Cardinal John McClosky age 75, the first American cardinal.

OCT. 29.—At Orange, N. J., Gen. George B. McClellan age 59.

OCT. 31.—At Albany, J. Wesley Smith, associate editor of the *Argus*, formerly of Auburn, age 58.

NOV. 20.—At Indianapolis, Ind., Thomas A. Hendricks, Vice-President of the U. S., age 66.

DEC. 8.—At New York, Wm. H. Vanderbilt the railroad king, age 64.

DEC. 15.—At Washington, Ga., Gen. Robert Toombs, age 75, he who in the palmy days of slavery, boasted that he would live to call the roll of his slaves from Bunker Hill monument.

1886, JAN. 31.—At Washington, Mrs Bayard, wife of Thomas Francis Bayard secretary of state.

FEB. 9.—At Governor's Island, New York, Gen. Winfield S. Hancock age 62, of "Second Army corps" fame.

FEB. 12.—Horatio Seymour age 76, a distinguished Democratic politician, ex-governor of New York, and candidate for president against General Grant in 1868. His wife, Mary Bleeker Seymour, survived him less than a month, dying on the 8th of March following.

FEB. 14.—At Syracuse, Hon. Dennis McCarthy, the leading merchant of that city and for many years state senator from the Onondaga district.

FEB. 18.—John B. Gough age 67, a temperance orator of upwards of forty years active and efficient service.

AUTHORS.

1879, MARCH 3.—At Rome, Italy, William Howitt age 87. He was noted as the senior partner of the firm of "William and Mary Howitt," authors.

APRIL 30.—At Philadelphia, Mrs. Sarah J. B. Hale, formerly editor of *Godey's Lady's Book*, age 91.

1880, OCT. 20.—At Wayland, Mass., Mrs. Lydia Maria Child, age 78.

DEC. 22.—At London, England, at the age of 60, Mrs. Cross, widely known as George Eliot, one of the most distinguished novelists of her day.

1881, FEB 5.—At London, England, Thomas Carlisle, age 81.

APRIL 8.—At Lynn, N. C., Sidney Lanier age 39. Poet, and author of the "Boy's Froissart."

JUNE 2.—Alfred B. Street age 70. Poet, and state librarian at Albany.

OCT. 12.—Dr. Josiah Gilbert Holland age 63, author of "Bitter Sweet," and editor of the *Century Magazine*.

1882, JAN. 7.—At Rome, Italy, Richard H. Dana age 77.

FEB. 7.—At Cannes, France, Berthold Auerbach age 70.

MARCH 24.—Henry W. Longfellow age 75.

1882, APRIL 20.—Charles Robert Darwin, age 73; father of the modern "Theory of Evolution."

APRIL 27.—Ralph Waldo Emerson, preacher, poet, philosopher and essayist, age 79.

MAY 11.—At London, England, Dr. John Brown, age 62. Author of "Rab and his Friends."

DEC. 6.—At London, Anthony Trollope, novelist, age 67.

DEC. 18.—At Boston, Henry James Sr., age 71.

1883, JAN. 23.—At Paris, Gustave Doré, French artist, age 50.

MARCH 7.—At Mentone, Italy, James Richard Green, English historian, age 45.

OCT. 21.—At London, Capt. Mayne Reid, novelist, age 65.

DEC. 14.—At St. Quentin, France, Henri Martin, age 73, French historian.

1884, FEB 8.—At Princeton, N. J., Arnold Henry Guyot, age 76, author of Guyot's geographies.

APRIL 11.—At London, Charles Reade, age 70, novelist, author of "Never Too Late to Mend," "Christie Johnston," etc.

OCT. 20.—At New York, Alexander J. H. Duganne age 71, a minor poet.

1885, MARCH 6.—T. S. Arthur age 76.

1885, APRIL 11.—At New York, Richard Grant White age 73, Shakesperian critic.

MAY 22.—At Paris, Victor Hugo age 83, French novelist and patriot.

AUG. 12.—At San Francisco, Helen Fiske Hunt Jackson age 54, known as "H. H."

OCT. 14.—At Monterey, Cal., Henry W. Shaw, age 67, a quaint humorist known as "Josh Billings."

1886, MARCH 28.—Richard Cheveneux Trench, D. D., age 79, formerly archbishop of London, author of "The Study of Words, etc."

LOCAL NECROLOGY.

1879, MARCH 1.—Philip R. Frecoff, age 59. Mr. Frecoff was a native of Holland but had resided in Auburn for many years. In his early career he was successful, but in later life suffered from want.

MARCH 6.—Burton B. Tyler age 70.

APRIL 9.—At Owasco lake, George C. E. Thompson age 91, one of the early settlers of Cayuga County.

APRIL 25.—At St Louis, Thomas Towne age 35.

MAY 12.—Goddard H. Doud, in his 66th year, for many years a blacksmith in this city.

MAY 13.—At Chicago, Stephen A. Goodwin, age 60, formerly a prominent lawyer and politician of Auburn.

MAY 19.—Elmore P. Ross age 70, a well known business man and politician, formerly of Port Byron but latterly of Auburn.

MAY 20.—David Smith, a veteran of the war of 1812, supposed to be over 100 years of age.

JULY 21.—Nathaniel Williams, teamster, well known for his integrity and industry, age 87.

AUG. 12.—Simkins Snow age 76, father of Supt. B. B. Snow.

SEPT. 11.—Elliot G. Storke age 68, at one time superintendent of schools for Cayuga county, afterwards a publisher and at the time of his death a manufacturer.

1879, OCT. 19.—John H. Hinman age 51, son of the late Col. Hinman, and long engaged in the grocery trade.

Nov. 1.—Adam Miller age 66, a wealthy citizen, and till lately actively interested in local politics.

Nov. 12.—Edward Rathbun age 73, formerly of the firm of Smith & Rathbun, dentists.

DEC. 23.—Franklin L. Griswold age 63, a prominent clothing merchant.

DEC. 29.—Andrew V. M. Suydam age 79, long engaged in the business of harness and trunk making.

1880, MARCH 14.—Josiah Douglass age 69, a builder of some note under the firm of Douglass & Billings, but better known as an ardent politician, a Clay whig before the war, who entered the Democratic ranks through the medium of the so-called "Know-Nothing" party.

MARCH 22.—Thomas M. Skinner age 89, an old time printer and publisher.

APRIL 21.—Thos. A. Graham, long connected with the telegraph service, and the pioneer of the telephone service in Auburn.

1880, MAY 1.—Josiah Barber, for many years a prominent manufacturer of carpets in Auburn, age 80.

MAY 7.—Israel F. Terrill, a prominent hardware merchant of long standing in the firm of Terrill & Johnson, and the later firm of Terrill & Dunning, age 73.

JUNE 9.—David H. Armstrong, M. D., age 53, a prominent and successful physician of the city.

JULY 19.—Nathan Osborn, age 90 and upwards, well known as a gardener by the last generation.

AUG. 1.—Amasa B. Hamblin, age 56, for many years engaged in the printing business, and at times intrusted with the offices of City Clerk, City Treasurer, member of the Board of Education, etc.

AUG. 14.—Barent Low, an aged resident of Auburn, at the age of 86.

SEPT. 24.—Truman J. McMaster age 84.

OCT. 8.—Elon C. Denio age 49, a prominent citizen in the employ of the Auburn Manufacturing Co.

OCT. 26.—Benjamin Lattin age 86.

DEC. 20.—Rev. John M. Austin age 75, a clergyman of the Universalist denomination, and for several years the editor of the *Christian Ambassador*, published in Auburn.

1881, JAN. 7.—William Allen age 63, for a number of years a prominent lawyer of the city.

FEB. 11.—At New York city, Henry B. Fitch, age 47, a former well known resident of Auburn, and the third son of Abijah Fitch.

APRIL 15.—Hon. Milo Goodrich, lawyer, age 66.

APRIL 26.—At East Orange, N. J., Charles P. Fitch, age 51, second son of Abijah Fitch and a former merchant of Auburn.

MAY 14.—Henry Underwood, age 63, brother of Superintendent John Underwood.

JUNE 21.—At Sherwoods, Slocum Howland, age 87, one of the early settlers of southern Cayuga.

JULY 5.—Harley Huggins age 78.

JULY 16.—Daniel Hewson, age 85, a much respected citizen and in his prime a prominent business man of Auburn.

AUG. 20.—In New York, Walter S. Weed, in his youth a prominent young man of Auburn.

OCT. 10.—Isaac S. Allen age 77.

OCT. 13.—Col. Edwin B. Morgan of Aurora, age 75, former M. C.

1881, OCT. 18.—Jesse D. Smith, merchant of long standing, age 48.

NOV. 3.—Sumner L. Paddock, former city clerk, age 28.

NOV. 4.—John B. Strong, age 50 years 7 months, collector of Internal Revenue.

NOV. 5.—Henry J. Sartwell, age 61, a successful merchant.

NOV. 7.—Lewis W. Meaker, age 78, a well known resident of Auburn for many years. Father of Mrs. John W. Haight.

NOV. 28.—In New York, Col. John A. Dodge, formerly a prominent manufacturer of Auburn.

DEC. 2.—Abner E. Warriner, age 52, for many years manager of the telegraph service in Auburn.

DEC. 7.—Eleazer Hunter, an early settler, age 92.

DEC. 15.—Nelson Peabody, a well known insurance agent, age 72.

DEC. 26.—Thomas Douglass, former clerk of the prison and in bygone days first fiddle in the orchestra at social dances, age 79.

1882, JAN. 1.—Enoch Harris, a life-long resident of Auburn, age 82.

JAN. 7.—Jasper Trowbridge, father of Mr. Charles S. Trowbridge, age 86.

FEB. 2.—In New York, Henri Tucker, a native Auburnian, celebrated as a musical composer, age 56.

FEB. 19.—Seth Rockefeller, age 59.

1882, FEB. 24.—John P. Hunter, age 70.

MARCH 2.—William D. Woodin, a prominent citizen of the town of Scipio, age 72 years 7 months.

APRIL 23.—Edward H. Groot, for many years engaged in business and building, age .

MAY 10.—James Henderson, a retired merchant, age 71.

MAY 13.—Horatio J. Brown, of the old firm of Brown & Lee, grocers, age 69.

JUNE 7.—Oliver Wood, lawyer, age 51.

JULY 13.—Daniel B. Keyes, age 79, formerly merchant tailor in Auburn.

JULY 17.—At New York, Isaac Sherwood, eldest son of Col. John M. Sherwood at one time a prominent citizen of Auburn.

JULY 18.—At Canandaigua, Wm. B. Smith, age 71, formerly clerk at the Auburn Prison.

AUG. 3.—Rufus Sargent, for many years a successful manufacturer.

AUG. 28.—Rev. Wm. A. Cromwell, age 63 years 8 months, at one time pastor of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, but in his declining years reduced to the necessity of taking service as cook in one of the saloons of the city.

1882, SEPT. 1.—Capt James E. Tyler, age 74, for many years an officer in the state prison.

SEPT. 6.—John Clapp, age 75, long a respected resident of Auburn.

SEPT. 8.—At Saratoga, James R. Hills, age 52, a lawyer of New York, but in his younger days a resident of Auburn, brother of the late William Hills.

SEPT. 11.—Capt. John Wall, age 53.

NOV. 5.—Dewitt C. Richardson, age 58, senior partner of the firm of D. C. & G. W. Richardson, furniture dealers.

NOV. 16.—Augustus Alexander, age 70, a manufacturer of fine boots and shoes of excellent local reputation.

DEC. 8.—James E. Hart, age 70, father of Rev. Wm. Hart.

DEC. 27.—Peter E Tafft, age 67, a respected citizen long engaged in the milling business.

1883, JAN. 18.—William Gregory, age 70, engaged in the undertaker's business in his later life.

1883, JAN. 28.—Eleazer R. Abbey age 68, a painter by trade.

JAN. 30.—Abijah Fitch age 84, for many years a prominent business man of Auburn.

FEB. 28.—William Lindsley, age 82, a bookbinder by trade.

APRIL 15.—Charles E. Cootes age 54, for many years Police Justice, and Recorder of the city.

APRIL 17.—Silas L. Bradley age 66, a retired merchant, and president of the Bank of Auburn.

MAY 2.—Artemus W. Bodman age 62, a wood-worker by trade and for some years past a constable of the city.

MAY 7.—Charles T. Ferris age 64, an active business man of Auburn for upwards of 30 years.

MAY 7.—Nelson Chapin age 66.

MAY 18.—Daniel D. Buck age 80 years 4 months, former sheriff of Cayuga County.

MAY 19.—Daniel Selover age 70, a well known mechanic.

JUNE 1.—James Parish age 85 years 8 months, a respected citizen, well known to the older residents of the city.

JUNE 8.—Wm. C. VanVechten age 81 years 5 months, father of Wm. Page VanVechten, Mrs. W. Hollister and Mrs. E. R. Fay.

JUNE 27.—John T. Pingree age 48, a prominent lawyer.

1883, JULY 4.—Gideon Sanford age 85 years 6 months, father of the well known Dr. Charles P. Sanford.

JULY 30.—Gardiner S. Tubbs age 75, ancestor of the somewhat eccentric R. Heber Tubbs.

AUG. 10.—Peter V. R. Coventry age 68, a former well known tobacconist.

AUG. 19.—William H. Wellner age 62 years 4 months.

AUG. 21.—Villers Merrill age 89, father of the Merrill Bros., formerly foundrymen and machinists in Auburn.

AUG. 30.—Charles A. Warden age 50, the highly esteemed general freight and passenger agent of the S. C. R. R. Co.

SEPT. 5.—Dr. Charles C. Bates age 54, a well known physician.

SEPT. 19.—Enos T. Throop Martin age 75.

SEPT. 22.—At Northville, in the town of Genoa, Samuel Adams, a well known and highly respected citizen.

1883, OCT. 3.—Col. Terance J. Kennedy age 63, distinguished among other things for being the first soldier to enlist on the Union side in the war of the Rebellion.

OCT. 6.—David P. Greeno age 70, one of the former firm of Holiday, Lamey & Greeno, leather manufacturers.

OCT. 11.—John Thomas Marshall Davie age 51, a well known lawyer, acting surrogate and at the time of his death the Republican candidate for county judge.

OCT. 26.—At Moravia, Hon. Hector H. Tuthill, former member of assembly, age 56.

NOV. 2.—Nelson Payne age 79, uncle of Congressman Payne.

NOV. 11.—In New York, Charles M. Hinman age 53, son of Col. Hinman late of Auburn.

DEC. 11.—Thomas R. Stalker, a former well known builder, age 67 years 9 months.

DEC. 16.—Michael S. Myers age 82 years 8 months, a well known lawyer resident of Auburn since 1817.

1884, JAN. 31.—William Shapcott age 70.

FEB. 2.—Charles Coventry, a well known tobacconist, age 84 years 3 months.

FEB. 19.—W. M. Williams, son-in-law of the late Gen. John H. Chedell.

MCH. 13.—Dr. Thomas N. Calkins age 82 years 4 months, for many years a respected physician of Auburn.

MAY 3.—John E. Patten age 72, the proprietor of a meat-market for 45 years or more.

MAY 4.—James Hyde age 76, a well known jeweler.

MAY 16.—Charles C. Button age 43, son of Dr. James D. Button.

MAY 18.—In Detroit, Charles N. Tuttle, a former popular druggist of Auburn.

MAY 22.—Capt. George W. Bacon, florist, age 52 years 3 months.

MAY 23.—Dr. Stephen Ball age 83 years 10 months, in his prime a prominent dentist.

JUNE 5.—John L. Chatterton age 28, a popular young attorney of Auburn.

1884, JULY 22.—Edgar H. Titus age 42, eldest son of Mr. Samuel Titus.

AUG. 3.—Chauncey B. Delano age 64, proprietor of the National Hotel.

AUG. 16.—Morris S. Bradford age 72, a much respected citizen, by trade a painter.

AUG. 18.—Eli Gallup, 70, a prominent Democratic politician, at one time mayor of the city (1870).

AUG. 21.—Lorenzo Lombard age 71.

AUG. 26.—Charles T. VanOmmen age 91 years 2 months, a much respected Hollander.

NOV. 25.—Henry Ivison age 76, formerly of Auburn, but for many years at the head of a book publishing house in New York.

DEC. 10.—In the town of Scipio, David Aiken age 79, for many years returned as supervisor from the town of Venice, to contest the payment of the railroad bonds of that town.

DEC. 20.—Walter Bray Sr., aged 96 years 7 months, father of Walter Bray, the saddle and harness maker.

1885, JAN. 2.—At Lawrence, Kansas, Nelson T. Stephens, a former prominent lawyer of Auburn.

FEB. 4.—Palmer Holly age 92, one of the oldest residents of the city.

FEB. 21.—Horatio N. Fleetwood age 77.

FEB. 22.—H. F. Phillips, a well known machinist in the employ of Messrs. Sheldon & Co., age 68.

MARCH 3.—In New York, Erastus G. Knight age 61, a long time resident of Auburn.

APRIL 19.—Oliver Swaine Taylor, M. D., age 100 years 4 months and 2 days, an honorary member of this society.

JULY 1.—Samuel C. Lester age 78, of the former firm of Lester & Bradley.

JULY 6.—Joseph Osborn age 65, formerly and for many years a leading druggist in Auburn.

- JULY 19.—Harrison Daniels age 71 years 8 months.
- AUG. 5.—At Detroit, Edward H. Cobb age 67, formerly of Auburn.
- AUG. 9.—Wm. H. Kelsey age 85, a well known manufacturer of brick.
- 1885, AUG. 14.—A. T. H. Groot age 32 years 4 months.
- AUG. 16.—John Curtis age 71, a well known manufacturer.
- SEPT. 12.—William R. Craig age 79.
- SEPT. 23.—John Elliott age 72 years 5 months, an esteemed citizen engaged in candle manufacture.
- SEPT. 29.—Lorenzo W. Nye age 77, for many years engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods and carpets.
- OCT. 25.—Col. W. H. Carpenter age 64.
- NOV. 1.—Harmon Woodruff age 78, for many years a prominent merchant of Auburn.
- NOV. 20.—Joseph Neyhart age 65, long engaged in the flour trade.
- NOV. 24.—Joseph Anderson age 52, an active business man in the hardware trade.
- NOV. 25.—Rev. Charles Hawley, D. D., for twenty-eight years pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, and president of this society, age 66 years 3 months.
- NOV. 28.—Lyman Soule age 91 years 8 months, distinguished for his success in accumulating wealth.
- 1886, JAN. 1.—At the Ovid Asylum, James H. Ashby age 44, father of Benj. S. Ashby of the firm of Watson, Cox & Co.
- JAN. 3.—Hiram Whiting age 67, father of Mr. Augustus Whiting of local newspaper fame.
- JAN. 12.—Thomas Reed age 61, former sheriff of Cayuga county.
- JAN. 16.—David H. Schoonmaker age 59 years 8 months, a former partner of Sheriff Reed, and a prominent citizen of worth.
- JAN. 20.—Edwin A. Woodin age 36, eldest son of Senator

Woodin, a prominent and promising lawyer of the city, and at the time of his death city attorney.

JAN. 20.—Jacob M. Brown age 80 years 9 months, a genial and much esteemed old gentleman, moderately engaged in real estate transactions.

JAN. 29.—Miles Perry age 68, a retired business man of some thirty years' residence in the city.

MARCH 7.—Rev. Ezra Dean age 77, a retired clergyman of the Baptist denomination.

MARCH 12.—Dr. Sylvester Willard, a retired physician of much wealth, a liberal donor to religious institutions, aged 87 years 3 months.

MARCH 19.—In New York, J. Fred Dennis age 44, son of the late C. C. Dennis.

MARCH 21.—Daniel Woodworth age 82, a prominent and highly respected citizen.

APRIL 5.—Harvey Hitchcock age 68 years 4 months, a veteran of the late war.

APRIL 11.—Peter Sheil age 75, a merchant tailor of long and respectable standing in Auburn.

At Middletown, Conn., Dr. A. M. Scheu, former physician at the State Insane Asylum in this city, and son-in-law of the late S. L. Bradley, age 45 years.

1879, MARCH 12.—Mrs. Mary A. Hutchinson, relict of Chas. B. Hutchinson, and mother of Mrs. David M. Dunning age 58.

APRIL 20.—Miss Phoebe Morris age 87.

APRIL 23.—Mrs. Aurelia Allen age 89.

SEPT. 16.—Miss Ursula L. Sittser age 45, for many years a teacher in the public schools of this city.

SEPT. 23.—Mrs. Clara Bradley Scheu, only daughter of the late S. L. Bradley.

1880, JAN. 7.—Laura C., wife of W. M. Williams and the only surviving child of the late Gen. John H. Chedell.

FEB. 6.—Charlotte B., wife of Prof. Rufus Sheldon of Brooklyn and daughter of the late Dr. L. B. Bigelow age 48.

FEB. 11.—Mrs. Lizzie E. P. Meaker, wife of Wm. H. Meaker, and daughter of the late C. W. Pomroy age 41.

JUNE 2.—Mrs. Elizabeth Barber age 84, who survived her husband Josiah Barber only one month.

JULY 6.—Miss Jennie Browne, of local note as a vocalist.

JULY 20.—Miss Mary E. Jenks age 69, who had for many years successfully conducted a small private school in this city.

SEPT. 23.—Mrs. Polly A. Howe at the age of 94.

1881, MAY 11.—Mrs. Louisa E. McNeil, wife of David B. McNeil age 59.

1882, JAN. 6.—Mrs. Cornelia A., wife of Daniel Cock age 61.

JAN. 30.—Maria Louisa, wife of Mr. D. M. Kirby age 30.

FEB. 13.—Mrs. Almira M. B. Clary, relict of the late Dr. Joseph Clary age 95.

JULY 5.—Miss Janet Pomeroy, eldest daughter of Hon. T. M. Pomeroy age 24.

JULY 27.—Mrs. Eliza VanVechten, mother of Mr. W. Page VanVechten age 79.

NOV. 1.—The venerable Mrs. Betsey Slade of Kelloggsville age 101 years 5 months.

1883, FEB. 15.—Mrs. Laurania Coffin age 90, relict of Capt. Wm. H. Coffin and mother of Mrs. Winnifred Laurence.

MAY 7.—Mrs. Julia Coventry age 75, wife of Charles Coventry.

AUG. 15.—Mrs. Eliza Skinner age 93 years 6 months, relict of Thomas Skinner, deceased.

SEPT. 22.—Mary, wife of Wm. Lamey age 66.

OCT. 1.—Diana, wife of Deacon Palmer Holley age 87.

DEC. 6.—Mrs. Isaac S. Allen, relict of the late Isaac S. Allen.

1884, JAN. 15.—Anna Sanford age 82, relict of the late Gideon Sanford.

JAN. 26.—Miss Mary Martin, daughter of the late E. T. T. Throop Martin.

APRIL 22.—Deborah Foster age 67, wife of Wm. H. Foster

and mother of Mr. John Foster of the firm of Foster & Burghduff.

JUNE 2.—Mrs. Mabel P. Williams, relict of the late Charles P. Williams at the age of 62.

JULY 20.—Mrs. Eliza F., wife of Horace T. Cook age 63.

JULY 23.—Mrs. Elizabeth, relict of James McDougall age 70.

AUG. 23.—Mrs. Louisa W. Beardsley, daughter of Hon. David B. McNeil.

SEPT. 3.—Mrs. Sarah, relict of the late D. C. Richardson age 44.

NOV. 15.—Mrs. Eleanor Peat age 88, mother of Robert Peat.

DEC. 28.—Mrs. Jane H. Woodruff age 73 years 5 months, wife of Harmon Woodruff since deceased.

1885, JAN. 4.—Mrs. Ellen A. Pomroy age 63, wife of Henry R. Pomroy.

JAN. 23.—Mrs. Hopkins, wife of Rev. S. M. Hopkins, D. D.

FEB. 17.—Mrs. Hattie P., wife of Dr. C. L. George.

MAR. 3.—Mrs. Viola J. Parrish age 33, only daughter of the late J. Lewis Grant.

MAR. 30.—Mrs. Elizabeth J., relict of the late James E. Tyler age 76.

MAY 18.—Mrs. Mary E., wife of John K. Tallman age 57 years 4 months.

JULY 13.—Miss Myra Paine age 66.

JULY 14.—Mrs. Minerva Pomroy age 70 relict of the late C. W. Pomroy and mother of the late Mrs. W. H. Meaker.

JULY 25.—Mrs. Wealtha A. Allen age 83.

AUG. 6.—Mrs. Nettie C. Burtis, wife of Mr. E. C. Burtis and eldest daughter of John S. Lanehart, Esq.

AUG. 12.—Mrs. Lorania, relict of the late D. O. Baker age 65.

AUG. 29.—Mrs. Susan, relict of Isaac Selover and mother of Mr. E. C. Selover age 84.

SEPT. 23.—Mrs. Mary A., wife of George W. King age 46.

OCT. 23.—Mrs. Mary C., wife of the venerable Dr. Richard Steel age 85.

OCT. 29.—Mrs. Minerva, relict of the late Morris S. Bradford age 69.

DEC. 2.—Mrs. Elizabeth S. Olmsted, wife of John Olmsted.

DEC. 19.—Mrs. Eliza Coalson age 81 years 8 months, relict of Nicholas Coalson.

DEC. 20.—Mrs. Caroline F., wife of Col. John B. Richardson age 61.

1886, JAN. 11.—Miss Elizabeth T. Keeler, granddaughter of the late Dr. O. S. Taylor.

JAN. 20.—Mrs. Phebe A. Hewson age 82 relict, of Daniel Hewson.

FEB. 18.—Mrs. Mary Ann Parish, relict of James Parish and sister of the late Josiah Barber age 88.

MAR. 19.—Mrs. Rachel Ward age 87, mother of Mrs. D. O. Baker deceased and sister of Mrs. Sally Ann Stone.

MAR. 23.—At Ovid Asylum, Mrs. Winnifred Laurence, daughter of the late Capt. Wm. H. Coffin.

MAR. 29.—Mrs. Abbie Mumford Porter age 86, widow of John Porter and mother of Mrs. A. G. Beardsley.

I may add to this list the name of Mrs. Deborah Depew, widely known in our community as "Debby Depew," a colored lady, who died on the 8th of April 1879 at the age of 54. Debby was active, intelligent and pious. She was a zealous supporter of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion church, and at the annual donation parties for the benefit of the pastor, was always a prominent character.

Nor should I omit to mention the venerable Harriet Stewart, who died October 13, 1880 at the advanced age of 107, if the family record, which is doubtless carried in the head, may be relied upon. Mrs. Stewart was the mother of the celebrated Harriett Tubman of underground railroad fame.

VIOLENT DEATHS.

1879, AUG. 28.—Morris Barnes, a respected citizen long engaged in conducting a meat market, committed suicide by hanging himself.

SEPT. 30.—Near Titusville, Pa., Jacob S. Gray age 60, took his life by hanging himself during a fit of temporary insanity. He was formerly a respected citizen of Auburn, but went to the oil regions of Pennsylvania when the oil excitement was at its height.

1880, JUNE 17.—Lewis A. Chadderdon, a fireman, killed by the falling walls at a fire in the rear of the Osborne House.

AUG. 14.—Joseph H. Morris age 37, chief engineer of the fire department, killed himself by cutting his throat during the Firemen's State Convention in Auburn.

1881, JUNE 20.—Edward S. Fearing age 32, of highly respectable connections, but somewhat dissipated in his habits, took his life by poisoning himself.

1882, JULY 27.—David Shaw age 55, killed by cars on Mechanic street near Genesee.

1883, MARCH 26.—Frank Rich age 48, a prominent lawyer of the town of Ira, hanged himself at the village of Cato.

JUNE 1.—Josef Petmeky murdered a Mrs. Froitzheim at No. 94 Perrine street.

JUNE 17.—Mr. Eugene Root age 37, died at the City Hospital from injuries received at the fair grounds by being thrown from a sulky, in which he was driving in a trotting match.

1884, FEB. 16.—George R. Bardsley killed at Owasco lake, by the upsetting of an ice-boat which he was sailing.

JULY 23.—A man by the name of George Fedderkill fell from a window in the third story of the Radney House and was killed. He was supposed to be partially intoxicated.

1885, JAN. 29.—A machinist named James Sampson age 35, while inside a boiler at Nye & Wait's factory, which he was

repairing, was steamed to death by the careless admission of hot steam from an adjoining boiler.

JULY 26.—Two colored men named Parker Stewart and William Carlisle, both intoxicated, were drowned in Owasco lake by the upsetting of the boat in which they were rowing.

AUG. 21.—Franz Josef Petmeky hanged for the murder of Paulina Froitzheim.

SEPT. 26.—Thomas Dunn Jr., a young merchant age 28, who had recently commenced business in the store of the Y. M. C. A. building, drowned himself by leaping into the Owasco outlet from Lizette street bridge.

OCT. 1.—Henry Dickerson of Moravia shoots his wife and then himself, near the village of Moravia. This seems to be a favorite amusement of Moravia husbands. Mr. Dickerson did not shoot himself enough, and convalescing was brought to jail in this city January 2, 1886, where he awaits trial.

SCIENTIFIC.

1879, JULY 8.—The yacht *Jeannette*, fitted out by James Gordon Bennett of the *New York Herald*, sails from San Francisco for the North Pole, by way of Behring Strait. This was the first expedition of the kind to take this route, all earlier explorers having taken the Baffin Bay entrance to the Arctic, or having gone by the north of Europe. On the 11th of June 1881, the *Jeannette* was crushed in the ice north of Siberia. The crew took to their boats and after a perilous voyage reached the mouth of the Lena river, where most of them perished. Lieut. Danenhauer started overland and with three companions reached St. Petersburg and arrived in New York May 28, 1882. A relief expedition was at once sent to the rescue of the survivors, but most of them had perished from cold and hunger. Three reached New York Sept. 13, 1882, and four more March 27, 1883.

1879, Nov. 14.—The shore end of the French Atlantic

Cable from Brest, was laid at Eastham on Cape Cod, Mass., on the 21st of Nov. 1879. M. Grevy, president of the French Republic, sent a congratulatory message to President Hayes on the completion of the cable.

1879, SEPT. 3.—Prof. Nordenskjold, the Swedish explorer, arrives at Yokahama after a long and perilous voyage across the Arctic Ocean north of Europe and Asia.

1880, JULY 20.—The Egyptian obelisk known as Cleopatra's needle arrives at New York after a voyage of about a month. This interesting relic of antiquity was a present from Ismail Paoha to New York city.

1881, JUNE 23.—A small comet appeared in the northeast and remained on exhibition for several evenings.

AUG 23.—Another comet disclosed itself in the north in the evening, attracting the attention of those scientifically or otherwise inclined, and then faded from sight after a display of a few evenings.

1881.—In July of this year, the Greely expedition under the government auspices, started for Lady Franklin Bay in the Arctic regions, which point it reached on the 12th of Sept. following. The expedition consisted of 26 men with Lieut. A. W. Greely in command, and was to remain in the polar region for two winters for the purpose of scientific observation. In the summer of 1882, a relief steamer attempted to reach the party but failed, and returned home after leaving provisions at various points for the party. In the summer of 1883, a second expedition was sent out to bring the Greely party home. The vessel was crushed in the ice and the Greely party was left to its fate. In the spring of 1884, vigorous measures were taken to succor the expedition, and on July 17, 1884, news was received of the finding of Lieut. Greely and six of his companions at Littleton Island, barely alive from their sufferings, the other 19 men of the expedition having perished from cold and starvation. The expedition reached latitude 83° 24' north

in longitude $44^{\circ} 5'$ west, the most northerly point yet reached by any explorer.

1882, MARCH 12.—A comet was visible in the north just beneath the pole star, and on the 2d of October of the same year, the most brilliant comet of modern years became visible to the naked eye in the southeast. It reached its greatest brilliancy October 15, being then nearest the earth and at a distance of about 15,000,000 miles. It was known as "Thallon's comet," and was claimed to be first discovered at Nice in France, about noon Sept. 18.

Astronomers watched the strange visitor with much interest to ascertain its form, volume and component elements. This was important as it may aid in solving the vexed question whether comets are dead worlds, scooting around through space, with hair on end in infinite fright at some great calamity which befel them ages and ages ago, or whether they are incipient worlds hunting for an eligible location to set up in the planet business. The solution of this question would seem to depend upon the determination of the nature of the luminous appendage to the nucleus. If, as the ancients supposed, this appendage is hair (they named the visitor "*cometa*," meaning "*long hair*,") then the comet is doubtless a dead, or a very much scared world. This theory is plausible; for suppose a large bullying planet to kick a smaller one out of its orbit; or suppose a fair sized planet to run against something in the dark and knock the breath out of its body, nothing would be more natural in either case, than that the afflicted orb should start off on a tangent and go into the comet business.

But the developments of modern science tend to the opposite theory, namely, that comets are young worlds which are sowing their wild oats, and have not yet settled down to business. Hence, while the name "*Comet*" is retained in deference to the feelings of our ancestors, the appendage is almost uniformly denominated a *tail*. Now if it can be satisfactorily determined

that the luminous appendage is a tail, it settles the question as to the nature and ultimate destiny of comets. For, reasoning by analogy, let us take the case of the frog. In his infancy and childhood he is a pollywog with a tail. He retains his tail even after his legs have sprouted and have become well developed. But when he enters upon the specific duties of batrachian life, he discards his tail and knows it no more forever. Again to take an example from the higher order of animal life: it is the opinion of Darwin and others who have given the subject much research and thought, that our ancestor, the miocene man, sported a tail. When he became sufficiently evolved, so that it was unnecessary for him to hang from a limb by his tail to pick coconuts, he ceased wearing it, and a man with a caudal appendage in this age of the world would be regarded as a great curiosity. Presuming, therefore, that the law of nature, which still holds good in the case of the pollywog, which operated in the case of our ancestor, the miocene man, and which for aught we know may prevail in thousands of other species of animal life, is applicable to comets, is it not safe to assume that if the brilliant trains which seem inseparable from them are in fact tails, our remote descendants will witness the day when these wanderers will settle down to sedate planetary life? In other words we may safely predict that the comet will shed its tail and become a respectable and law-abiding member of some solar system.

1882, DEC. 6 —The transit of Venus occurred, an event which had the deep interest of scientists and astronomers the world over. All civilized nations vied with each other to secure the most complete and accurate observation of the passage of the planet across the sun's disc. Several European nations sent expeditions to this country to secure observations, and our own nation sent two expeditions to the Southern Hemisphere for a similar purpose. The astronomical value of accurate observations of the transit, rendered the outlay of liberal sums justifi-

able. The transit will not occur again until June in the year 2004.

1883, SEPT. 21.—Direct telegraphic communication between New York and Brazil via Central America is opened, the first message being congratulatory from President Arthur to the Emperor Dom Pedro.

1885, Nov. 18.—Sunday at 12 M., the new Standard Time Schedule was put in operation. The standard time of Auburn is now regulated by that of the 75° meridian. The longitude of Auburn being 76° 36' west, by the new arrangement, we are required to get up in the morning six minutes and twenty-four seconds earlier than is natural for us.

1885.—The winter of this year was remarkable for long continued low temperature. On the 26th of February, Seneca lake was reported as completely frozen over for the first time in fifty years.

1885, AUG. 21.—Occurred one of the most remarkable and wide-spread electric storms which has visited us for many years.

And here, my dear doctor, my record ends. If it has been a tithe as wearisome to you in its perusal as it has been to me in its preparation, you will regret, as I have again and again regretted, that I ever undertook its preparation.

Very truly yours,

B. B. SNOW,

Historiographer.

RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

AUBURN, N. Y., Nov. 9, 1886.

My Dear Doctor Schliemann:

The record which I had prepared for you in April last, was a surprise to me. I was surprised that I had written so much. I was more surprised and not a little chagrined that I had left out so much. Choice morsels of news that I had carefully done up and securely laid away, to be incorporated in my record, afterwards began to come to light in pigeon holes and drawers as I rummaged about, and reproached me for my over-anxiety in secreting them from the vulgar gaze until it was too late to use them. I repent but cannot repair the mischief.

I was again surprised that a relaxation from the duty of recording the events of the day, had seriously impaired my facility in performing the task, that the added weight of years impeded the freedom of the pen, that so many of those who aforesaid inspired me to continue my work by their cordial presence, were absent from their accustomed places never to resume them, and that they had been succeeded by those who might not sympathize fully, at once, with the familiar relations and confidences that have so long existed between us. However, as I have given my bond to continue my work, I make its fulfilment a sacred duty. And so I somewhat unexpectedly to myself continue my record this evening.

In one of the early October papers I chanced to notice an account of the marriage, at Lenox, Mass., of D. Percy Morgan, son of the late David P. Morgan of New York. I was satisfied from some statements in the marriage notice that D. Percy

Morgan is an evolution from David P. Morgan, who died in Washington on the 24th of January last, in the 55th year of his age. I had intended to include his name in the necrological list of my last record, but it escaped my attention. Something over forty years ago, David P. Morgan was a school boy in Auburn, at what was then the Auburn Academy, now the High School. I remember him as a bright, shrewd boy, active and interested in all school boy sports, an adept at playing marbles, in which he was always a winner. His career in school gave promise of his future success in life. There were no loose ends about him.

He commenced his business career in the commission trade in New York, but eventually turned his attention to stocks, in which he was eminently successful. He left an estate estimated at \$3,000,000. One of his old schoolmates, in speaking of him, said that "he panned out the best of any of the old Academy boys," for which reason I was desirous that his name should appear upon my record.

An enterprise was started in our city about one year ago, which was unheralded in the public prints, but which in its influence for good has no superior, if an equal, among the public institutions of our city. I refer to the Reading Room established and supported at his private expense by our esteemed President, General Wm. H. Seward. A neatly furnished room in Exchange street, over the post office, comfortably warmed and pleasantly lighted, was fitted up and provided with the prominent periodicals of the day, and the leading newspapers from all over the country. Any one could go and partake freely without money and without price. The rooms were open every week day and evening, and a portion of Sunday. The only restriction placed upon visitors was, that each should conduct himself so as not to disturb others. If one wished to read he could read; if he wished to write, the materials were at hand without cost; if he wished to smoke, he could do so, but he must

furnish his own cigars. There are no by-laws or regulations with regard to the use of books or papers, no restraints of any kind. The visitors break no rules because there are none to break. An elaborate set of regulations, even if they required nothing more than the decorum which at present characterizes the rooms, would materially diminish the attendance. The average man does not relish being advertised of his ignorance of propriety and admonished to behave himself. It is needless to add that the room was bountifully patronized throughout the season, which extended to the first of May, the total attendance being upwards of 22,000. It was re-opened this season on the first of November with the addition of some two hundred volumes of attractive books—histories, travels, biographies, fiction, poetry—and gives promise of growing popularity.

It is to be regretted that this enterprise is not more extensively patronized. I do not mean by those who partake of its benefits, but by those who contribute to its support, that more might "learn the luxury of doing good." I suspect however that there are no shares in market; and doubtless it is as well as it is. Moreover there is a charm in an individual enterprise which attracts the mass. I question whether any charitable or benevolent institution in the hands of an association or corporation can secure that measure of popular favor that an individual enterprise does. This view of the question reconciles me to the personal sacrifice which our worthy president is making.

Having to some extent made my peace with my last record, I feel more at ease in addressing myself to the present.

Prof. E. Stone Wiggins has received notice to quit prophesying destructive storms, devastating earthquakes and other natural disturbances, otherwise he will be dismissed from the weather bureau of the Dominion, in whose service he is. This is a great *blow* to Wiggins (not one that he prophesied), but a relief to those credulous, or nervously inclined. The fact is Wiggins is too venturesome. He should heed the admonition

of Mr. Hosea Biglow's grandfather, "Don't never prophesy unless you *know*." On the 10th of July he predicted, "September will open cool and stormy, premonitory to my great storm, commencing on the afternoon of September 29, and the great war of the elements will come as sure as the sun is in the heavens. It will be a storm of unparalleled violence, and after sweeping across the Atlantic and traversing the country, will exhaust its energies upon the rugged front offered by the Rocky Mountains."

By some error in his calculations Mr. Wiggins missed a golden opportunity, or he would have predicted the earthquake which shattered Charleston on the 31st day of August and proved so destructive to life and property. These shocks continued throughout September and October and even into November, extending over a wide area of country. Seeing that it appeared to be a good season for earthquakes, Mr. Wiggins recast his prediction, and changed the storm for September 29 into an earthquake, which would prove very destructive in the vicinity of the Gulf of Mexico and throughout Central America. But the 29th of September came and went, as calm as a June day, without a symptom of earthquake or storm, and the scared people of the south once more breathed freely. This was Mr. Wiggins' second great mistake. He should have adhered to his storm, moved it down into the Gulf of Mexico, and postponed it until the 12th of October, when he would have hit the tornado which swept across the gulf and utterly demolished the village of Sabine Pass, with a loss of some 200 lives.

These failures of Prof. Wiggins have placed him under a cloud, and the decisive action of the Canadian authorities in cancelling his license to prognosticate publicly, will doubtless retire him from the public gaze. It cannot be justly charged that his career was a failure. The masses had not been educated up to his standard of prophecy. It would be safe to assume that there would be a disturbance of the elements some-

where upon the globe within a month or so of the time he fixed ; it would be equally safe to assume that the precise day which he fixed upon would be without incident worthy of mention. A negative good would therefore result by anticipating unusual quiet upon the day of his predicted disaster. It is but justice to Mr. Wiggins to add that late advices attribute his persistency in prognosticating storms to Mrs. Wiggins. Having achieved some local celebrity through some attention of her bishop, she nagged the professor into the snare of prophecy, hoping thereby to raise him to the plane of greatness which she had achieved. This report should be taken with some allowance as possibly being another phase of the old story, "a woman did it."

My former record has contented itself with the humble task of chronicling the weather that has past, rather than forecasting that which is to be. It is a pleasant task when the season has dealt so good-naturedly by us as has the past.

The latest frost of the spring occurred on the 8th of April, and the tenderest vegetation was not again disturbed until the 2d of October. A warm shower on the 12th of April set the marsh frog trilling his monotonous love song. On the 23d of April, cherry trees were in bloom, three weeks earlier than in the previous year, and two weeks earlier than the average season. And still, the oriole, which delights to revel among the cherry blossoms, delayed its coming till the 7th of May, two days after the apple trees had donned their blossoms. Some years ago a respected citizen, somewhat advanced in years, assured me that we always had a snow-storm in May, a statement which I subsequently verified by observation. I took a fiendish delight in predicting this disagreeable episode in May weather to my incredulous friends, the nearest I ever came to being a weather prophet. I made the same prediction the present year, and watched for its fulfillment with no little interest. The nearest approach was a cold rain on the 16th of May, but not a flake of

snow fell, at least not in Auburn, but it snowed in the Mohawk valley. There are exceptions to all general rules, still I am content to be placed on the retired list of weather prophets.

The season has dealt very graciously by us here at home. Long stretches of sunny weather have been characteristic, with rains at intervals to protect us from drouth, which has prevailed to some extent in other sections, particularly in the west. The only episode of note was on the 17th of July, when a playful thunderbolt shattered the staff upon which the signal service weather symbols are displayed, at the corner of Genesee and North streets. That there was no malicious intent, may be inferred from the fact that no one was injured, whereas any one of a dozen men or horses in the street below might have been knocked into splinters, and could not have been replaced as easily as the staff was. It was hinted at the time that the act was intended as a rebuke to the weather bureau, which had been displaying the blue crescent or fair weather signal, through several days of persistent showery weather.

Other portions of our country have not fared so securely. On the 15th of April, a terrific tornado swept across Minnesota, laying waste everything in its course. The villages of St. Cloud and Sauk Rapids were demolished, with the loss of seventy lives. On the 13th of May, the city of Xenia, Ohio, was visited by a destructive storm and flood, causing a great destruction of property and the loss of some thirty lives. On the 31st of August, the city of Charleston was almost completely demolished by an earthquake, and sixty-one lives were lost. On the 12th of October, the village of Sabine Pass on the boundary between Louisiana and Texas, was wiped out by storm and flood, with a loss of 200 lives. About the same time severe tempests swept over the Great Lakes, carrying wreck and ruin in their path.

And still with all this prodigality of wind which our country is known to possess, not enough could be secured for a good cutter breeze, at the international yacht race at New York, early

in September. Lieut. Henn of the Royal Navy fancied that he could capture the America cup, which has been so long coveted and so frequently sailed for by English yachts, but which is still so securely held by our American craft. So he issued his challenge and came over with his cutter, the Galatea, to engage in the friendly contest. Our favorite, the Puritan, who so gallantly maintained the prestige of American yachts in the contest of the year before, was a little sulky when the new sloop Mayflower was selected to defend the cup, but submitted with good grace. Three races were to be sailed, but as the Mayflower won the first two, the latter on the 11th of September, the third race was not sailed. Lieut. Henn complained of the lack of a "cutter breeze," and it must be confessed that the elements seemed to show partiality. However, the Mayflower accepted the situation complacently. She was out there to *sail*, and she sailed, whether the wind blew or not. Among nautical men, much interest centered in the contest. The comparative merits of English and American models of sailing craft were to be tested. The conservative Briton clings to his narrow, deep-keeled cutter; the Yankee seems to have taken a Mississippi flat-boat for a model, adding a centerboard to hold what he makes to the windward. Last year the Puritan, showed the superiority of the American model, and the Mayflower this year confirmed it. When the Yankee's speed is on trial he doesn't often get left.

Owing to the exceptionally favorable season, the sea-serpent has been prevalent, and quite inclined to be sociable, during the summer. He is reported as disporting himself in the waters of the Hudson, perhaps his first visit to the new capitol. Several witnesses who saw his snake-ship, are prepared to testify before a legislative committee or elsewhere, as to the reality of his existence. But the most reliable account comes from a clear-headed school-master, the head master of the Franklin school of Boston, who was refreshing himself with a sea-side vacation,

at Cape Ann, on the New England coast. From the veranda of his cottage, he calmly surveyed the oceanic ophidian through a marine glass, for the space of ten minutes. The monster was moving slowly over the surface of the sea, at a distance of about 40 rods, his head projecting above the calm surface of the water, but the opposite extremity being wholly submerged, doubtless busy with the propeller, or the rudder. The school-master estimated the serpent's length at 80 feet, and describes his head as about the size of a nail-keg, from which I infer that all nail-kegs are of the same size. Scientists who have hitherto regarded the sea-serpent as a myth, must give the Boston school-master a respectful hearing. It is scarcely probable that he saw the serpent for the purpose of advertising his school; his presumed intelligence would render him a discreet observer, while his position shields him from the suspicion of using anything stronger than a marine glass for his observations. On the whole, the weight of testimony at the close of the season, strongly tends to the conviction that the sea serpent is a veritable entity.

The Salvation Army still continues its campaign against sin, in its peculiar way, unmolested, but still an object of curious wonder to the majority of the community. In the early summer, a local paper criticised the propriety of allowing the army to march through the streets nightly, "disturbing the peace and quiet of the city." Singularly enough, another element immediately caught at the suggestion, and for two or three evenings there were evident indications of a disposition to put a stop to the disturbance by interrupting the procession. Some influence however interfered in behalf of the army, and it has since nightly "disturbed the peace" without molestation. On the 26th of October, the army celebrated the anniversary of its incorporation with a banquet at the barracks, followed by an all-night prayer meeting. Several distinguished officers from out of town were present, and the occasion was one of marked interest.

Prompted by curiosity, I followed the bass drum and the tam-

bourines into the barracks the other evening, and sat through the exercises. I was impressed by the simplicity and apparent sincerity of the services. Barring the instrumental music and the gymnastics, there was nothing to offend the most devout. Two or three experts from the audience, not of the army, took part in the exercises, but their efforts lacked the spontaneity and the characteristic extravagance, bordering on the grotesque, of the regular army, and apparently made little impression. However much we may criticise the army's methods of advertising for hearers, or their methods of presenting religious truths, it must be admitted that they reach a class which no other influence does, and if they do little permanent good they certainly do no harm.

On the 16th of October, the celebrated Evangelist, D. L. Moody, commenced a series of revival meetings at the Genesee Rink, which were continued day and evening for twelve days following. Crowds of people attended the meetings, many coming from long distances, although the local interest was more than sufficient to fill the rink. Mr. Moody was ably seconded by Major Whittle, in the work of exhortation.

In view of the increased interest which may be reasonably expected from this religious awakening, it may be regarded as especially fortunate that the church accommodations of the city have been largely increased during the summer. The Central church congregation has been engaged for some months, in erecting an elaborate front to the old church edifice on William street, which will add largely to its accommodations, and greatly improve the architectural appearance of the building.

The Wall street M. E. church at the corner of Washington and Wall streets, having outgrown the old building, on the 27th of July, laid the corner stone of an enlarged edifice which is rapidly approaching completion.

On the 14th of October, Trinity church on Evans street, was

dedicated. It is a neat little edifice whose size should not be measured by its name, in which latter particular however, it restores the equilibrium between the eastern and western portions of the city, which was slightly disturbed by Westminster church, on West Genesee street.

While a commendable interest has been shown in the erection of temples for worship, temporal interests have not been neglected. Among the more important structures, have been the Hollister Block on the old Hardenberg homestead, the Lewis Block adjoining the old stone mill on the west, on Genesec street, and the Tallman Block on Dill street. The staid old Bank of Auburn has caught the infection, and is erecting a beautiful and commodious banking house, adjoining its old home, on the east.

On the 24th of September, after much tribulation, ground was broken for a new High School building, on the present High School grounds, and the foundation walls are rapidly approaching completion. Aside from these, the number of private residences which have been erected is unusually large, not so much that the increasing population demanded more room, as that the prices for building have been unusually low.

Among the public improvements, the paving of North street in the latter part of August, is perhaps the most important. The famous Aurelius avenue bridge has quietly settled down to public use, although a difference of opinion as to the payment therefor exists between contractor Perkins and the city authorities, to the extent of involving litigation. During the month of April, Green street was extended from Clark street through to Genesee street, and opened to public travel. In tearing away the front of the Princess rink for the street, on the 14th of April, the front wall fell, killing one of the laborers. Westlake avenue was also opened to the public, from Fort street to Court street, in the early summer.

My necrological list is far more extended than my inclinations would have made it, although much briefer than a complete record would have required. The most distinguished foreign dignitary who has been called was Ludwig II, the lunatic king of Bavaria, who drowned himself and his medical attendant on the 14th of June. Singularly enough, the throne descended to King Otto, who is also insane, and the kingdom is under the regency of Prince Luitpold, who was made regent June 28th.

In Berlin, on the 23rd of May, died Leopold Von Ranke, a highly distinguished German historian, at the advanced age of 91.

At Baireuth, in Bavaria, on the 31st of July, died Abbé Liszt age 75, one of the most celebrated composers of music of his age.

In our own land, we lose Edwin Percy Whipple, who died in Boston, June 16, at the age of 67. He was a well known essayist and lecturer, and will be remembered as having appeared upon the platform in the early lecture courses of Auburn.

JULY 6.—Near Groveton, in Georgia, Paul H. Hayne, a poet of some note died age 67.

JULY 16.—At Stamford, Delaware county, N. Y., Edward Z. C. Judson died age 64, more widely known as "Ned Buntline."

AUG. 20.—In Newport, R. I., Mrs. Ann S. Stephens died at the age of 73. She was a prolific writer of magazine stories, and rather a favorite a half century ago, in the days of the old "Ladies' Magazine."

Other than authors, I have noted the following:

MAY 21.—At Yonkers, N. Y., Dr. Dio Lewis died age 63. He was formerly a resident of Auburn, and a native of the adjoining town of Aurelius. In his early career he was a traveling physician, visiting different localities for a few days at a time, and prescribing for the ailments of the many who

flocked to him for healing. To facilitate his work, he used a stereotyped form in imitation of his handwriting, which served as a diagnosis for the disease of each patient, and all that was needed more was to fill the blank left for the prescription. He finally located permanently in Boston, making a specialty of light gymnastics, especially for ladies, and achieved a wide notoriety. The name Dio, is the remnant of Diocletian, which was his baptismal prænomen.

JUNE 1.—In New York, after a lingering illness, John Kelley, the noted Tammany chief, at the age of 64.

JUNE 1.—In New York, Burr W. Griswold age 62, a distinguished lawyer of the New York bar. He will be remembered by older Auburnians, as the junior member of the law firm of Blatchford, Seward & Griswold, which was prominent in Auburn some thirty years ago.

AUG. 4.—At Greystone on the Hudson, Samuel J. Tilden, the "sage of Gramercy Park," age 72. He was the acknowledged leader of his party in his prime, and as a shrewd political manager had no superior. His infirm physical condition had withdrawn him from active politics since his canvass for the presidency in 1876, although his counsel was eagerly sought and implicitly followed by his political adherents.

OCT. 25.—In New York, Mrs. Stewart, widow of the merchant prince, the late A. T. Stewart, age 83. There being no immediate heirs to the vast estate, it passes chiefly to the control of Judge Hilton, the confidential friend of the millionaire, and executor of his will in connection with his widow.

Our society has been called upon to mourn the loss of two of its most esteemed members :

JULY 6.—David M. Osborne died at the age of 63 years, after a lingering illness which long foretold its fatal termination.

SEPT. 13.—Wm. G. Wise died suddenly at his desk, in the midst of the active duties of his business, age 65. The esteem in which these two members were held has been made a matter

of record by the society, and my record may remain silent of further detail.

Of those well known in our community, from long residence or prominence in business affairs, who have passed away, I have noted the following.

APRIL 26.—Sidney W. Palmer, a well known inventor and manufacturer, at the age of 64.

MAY 19.—Capt. Hugh Hughes, a veteran of the late war—age 63.

JUNE 16.—John I. Brinkerhoff of Owasco, a prominent citizen and life-long resident of Cayuga County, age 83. He contributed a valuable paper to the archives of this society a few years before his death.

JUNE 22.—In New York, William L. Finn, for many years the publisher of the leading Democratic newspaper in this city, age 65.

JUNE 23.—John Olmsted age 86, a highly respected resident and worthy citizen.

JULY 9.—John M. Hurd age 54, a prominent manufacturer, and ex-mayor of the city.

JULY 26.—Isaac A. Bennett age 76, well known in our community as an efficient member of the police force.

AUG. 2.—William Furness age 77 years 8 months, an industrious and much respected citizen, a mason by trade.

AUG. 11.—William C. Barber, a prominent manufacturer of carpets and woolen goods, age 62.

SEPT. 25.—Charles P. Sanford, M. D., age 60 years 5 months, for many years a physician of limited practice in our city, but successful in accumulating wealth. He was the proprietor of the Sanford Block, at the corner of Genesee and William streets, which it is rumored is, by the terms of his will, to be erected into a "Girls' Home," upon the death of his widow.

OCT. 6.—William H. Foster age 69, an esteemed citizen who had led a secluded life for many years, the result of impaired health.

OCT. 7.—Charles S. Trowbridge age 74, from a sudden attack of paralysis, while acting as foreman of the grand jury then in session.

OCT. 8.—Darius Hubbard age 71, a worthy citizen of humble station, but of strict integrity and high moral worth. He was one of the early settlers, if not the pioneer, in the hot peanut trade of the city.

OCT. 12.—Galen O. Weed age 81, in former years somewhat prominent as a Democratic politician.

OCT. 23.—John T. Knapp age 84, former sheriff of the county, and a life-long active business man in the northern part of the county.

Local events, outside the ordinary routine of Auburn summer life, have not been abundant. The community was somewhat startled by the murder of an aged man named Peter Porter, in the adjoining town of Owasco, on the 2d of May, but on the whole our people have been orderly and well behaved.

During the month of August, a natural curiosity, in the way of a blossoming century plant, was on exhibition at the grounds of Mr. George Casey, on North street. This was the second instance of the blossoming of a plant of this variety in New York state, and its rarity attracted a large number of visitors, not only from the city and its vicinity, but from long distances outside. With his accustomed liberality, Mr. Casey allowed free access to his grounds to all who chose to avail themselves of the privilege.

But while Auburn has been in a measure uneventful, the country has been more than usually excited. The great labor question has assumed a prominence never before known, and in some instances has developed phases which threatened the peace and prosperity of the country. The great strikes of the winter and early spring encouraged a more dangerous element to assert itself, and on the 4th of May at Chicago and the 5th at Milwaukee, alarming riots occurred. In the former city, six police-

men were killed outright and sixty-one seriously wounded, by the bursting of a dynamite bomb, thrown into their ranks as they were attempting to disperse a street meeting of anarchists in Haymarket Square. Numerous arrests were made, and eight of the leaders were placed upon trial for the offence, and on the 20th of August were convicted, and subsequently seven of them were sentenced to be executed and now await their doom. This calamity is in no wise directly chargeable to the legitimate labor interests of the country, but it will scarcely be denied that the unsettled and disturbed condition of the laboring masses was made a pretext, and was seized upon as an opportune time for a baser element to defy all law and order, and to attempt to utterly subvert established authority. The discovery of an abundance of destructive missiles in the city of Chicago, is evidence of long and careful preparation for a decisive blow.

Happily, no similar calamity has since visited us, and the prompt measures of the authorities doubtless had a salutary effect. But a much to be deplored restive feeling has pervaded the industrial classes throughout the land, particularly in manufacturing and railroad centers. Labor strikes have been of frequent occurrence and often of startling proportions; sometimes ill advised and of short duration, and again with more justice in the claim; but always with deplorable results, both to labor and capital. The loss to the material interests of the country, which is shared by both labor and capital from the effect of the strikes during the past year, is inconceivable. Only a short time since, a strike was inaugurated in Chicago among the employees of the packing-houses, to enforce the eight hour system of labor with ten hours' pay. It was of short duration and the men were glad to resume work. But only last week the strike was renewed, and the 25,000 employes in the packing houses of Chicago are today in idleness. In New York, the great strikes have been chiefly among the street railroad

employes and have not been uniformly successful. But all lines of manufactures have been more or less disturbed. As a result of these disturbances, capital is becoming wary of investment in productive industries, and the outlook is not promising. It is worthy of mention that with the vast influence under its control, the labor organization has taken little distinctive action in political matters. At the late mayoralty election in New York, a candidate was presented who was claimed to be identified with the labor interests, and was quite generally supported by the laboring masses, but failed to secure the coveted prize. Out of a total vote of 218,961, the candidate of the labor party received 67,699, upwards of 5,000 less than one third, there being three candidates in the field.

The peaceful solution of the Labor question is the task of our own time and of our own land. The interdependence of Labor and Capital makes mutual concessions a necessity, but the stronger will always command the lion's share. Ever since Jacob entered into the service of Laban, it has been the prerogative of the employer to determine the terms of service. It is not probable that this long established custom will be materially changed in this later age.

Another episode, partaking more of a local than of national character, has been the ferreting out of the great bribery scheme in connection with the Broadway railroad franchise in 1884. It has been well established that all the aldermen in the New York board in 1884, with two exceptions, were the recipients of liberal bonuses for their votes in favor of granting a charter for the Broadway surface road, for which the city got no compensation. The guilty parties who had the assurance to remain this side the Canadian border, have been arrested and placed under heavy bonds, and unless they all follow the example of the first of their number who was brought to trial, and become insane, they will without doubt "do the state some service" in recompense for their "ill-got gains." There seems to be no chance for a successful strike in their cases.

The meteoric shower of defaulting cashiers across the Canadian border has been kept up during the season, and Canada is becoming quite a "Botany Bay" for the more aristocratic class of criminals. Meantime our Canadian neighbors have been asserting and enforcing their treaty rights to the fisheries along the Atlantic coast, to the great annoyance of the New England fishermen. It is more than probable that the smart little Cape Ann fishing craft have been playing exasperating antics along the Nova Scotia coast in times past, and if occasionally one gets caught and is drawn across the knee of the British Lion, the American eagle will not be inclined to utter a very shrill cry.

Your already wearied patience admonishes me to draw my record to a close. I should like to linger upon the details of the marriage of our respected chief magistrate on the 2d of June, with the fascinating Miss Frances Folsom. I hold the subject at arm's length however, lest the fragrant details intoxicate me, and make me garrulous beyond endurance. I must satisfy myself with the statement that our nation seemed to enter heartily into the enjoyment of the occasion, and to this day, the public prints delight in pleasantries about "Grover and his Frankie." Even the staid Queen of England sent a congratulatory message to the bride and groom. President Cleveland was the first president ever married in the White House. President Tyler came near to it, but he hadn't quite the assurance, so he was married in New York and immediately repaired to the White House for his honeymoon. A White House wedding is not altogether a novelty however, for Mr. Cleveland's was the ninth which had been solemnized there.

Yesterday the President and Mrs. Cleveland were the guests of Massachusetts, on the occasion of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of Harvard College. It is needless to say that the President carried himself with becoming dignity, and the reporter says that "the critical and skeptical

Bostonians have with one voice pronounced the President's bride charming," which I suppose is the Boston way of saying "perfectly lovely." The President, with a rare appreciation of the fitness of things, which is a prominent characteristic of him, declined the proffered honorary degree of LL. D. which the college authorities of the University tendered him.

I must not forget to mention the capture of Geronimo, the notorious Apache Indian chief, with his band, who had been on the war path for several weeks, plundering and murdering throughout New Mexico. He was forced to surrender without discretion, but there seems to have been a saving clause in the terms of surrender, by which the lives of the savages are to be spared. They go however to a far distant home in Florida, where in future they will be kept under close surveillance, boarding at the expense of their "Great Father."

On the 29th of October, the famous Bartholdi statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World," was dedicated on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor, with appropriate ceremonies. A large delegation of French dignitaries came over to take part in the ceremonies, and the act of international comity was completed. How much it will strengthen the ties of friendship between the two great republics of the old world and the new, remains for the future to develop, as the inception, execution and completion of the design, has been rather an individual than a national work.

When my last record closed, Mr. Gladstone, who had been made premier on the 3rd of February previous, was vigorously pressing in the British parliament his measure for home rule in Ireland. It came to a vote upon the second reading of the bill in the House, on the 8th of June, and was defeated by the close vote of 311 to 341. As is the custom when the minority is defeated Mr. Gladstone resigned, the parliament, was dissolved, and a new election was ordered. The election was hotly contested, but the conservative element was in the majority, and

home rule for Ireland was doomed to bide its time and await a change in public sentiment. A new cabinet was formed, with Lord Salisbury at the head, on the 3rd of August.

Meantime the laboring element throughout the kingdom, particularly the tenantry in Ireland and in portions of Scotland, have been excited and uneasy, and London itself has not been free from mobs of the disorderly class. Today is Lord Mayor's day in London and threats have been made that a procession of unemployed workmen would follow the pageant of the Lord Mayor's show. This project however has been wisely abandoned.

In Belfast, Province of Ulster, Ireland, frequent and continued bloody riots have taken place. It is difficult to account for the exact exciting cause. At times it seemed to be sectarian differences, Protestant against Catholic, although with true Irish instinct, sectarian differences vanished as soon as the police appeared upon the scene, and Catholic and Protestant stood shoulder to shoulder, or more properly shillalah to shillalah, to club off the officers of the law.

Reports have been prevalent of famine in the western portion of the island, and on the whole the outlook for our mother country is not brighter than in times past.

Across the channel, our sister republic has succeeded in getting rid of the suspected royal family. On the 23rd of June, an act was passed, banishing the Bourbon Princes from the republic. The three princes accepted the situation quietly, packed their gripsacks and peaceably went into exile. Who shall say when, and in what capacity each or any of them shall return to the land of his fathers. We treat our fallen magnates more leniently here.

I must not omit to mention the Bulgarian complication, which for some time has threatened the peace of Europe, and still occupies the attention of the great powers. When Alexander was placed upon the throne of united Bulgaria, all the great

powers of Europe except Russia, concurred in the arrangement. Russia, however, was suspicious of so important a power growing up on her borders, and through her machinations an insurrection was incited in Bulgaria, which resulted in the sudden deposition of Alexander and his deportation from the country. The Bulgarian army however was true to its king, and rose with the people to restore their deposed ruler. Alexander returned to the throne, and at the instance of his advisers, wrote a humiliating and submissive dispatch to the czar, which was received with contempt. Thereupon on the 4th of September, Alexander abdicated the throne, no more to return. Russia is today throttling Bulgaria. Turkey, Austria and England are looking anxiously at the issue of the contest, while Germany, equally interested, stands in the background with unannounced, but doubtless with decided convictions of her policy. A general European war would seem to be farthest from the interests and wishes of the great powers, Russia excepted, but it is an event whose probability, those versed in diplomacy are far from ignoring.

With this hurried and imperfect sketch of the events of the past few months, I submit my record, my dear doctor, to your keeping.

With renewed assurances of esteem, I remain,

Very truly yours,

B. B. SNOW,
Historiographer.

RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

AUBURN, N. Y., Feb. 8, 1887.

My Dear Doctor Schliemann:

In my last record, I briefly referred to the fact, that the respected chief magistrate of our nation was honoring by his presence, the quadri-millennial anniversary of the founding of Harvard College, and that his young wife, by her winsome ways, had completely captivated the cultured dames of the Hub. An episode of the occasion which I did not mention, because I did not then know it, should be embalmed in this record for its moral effect, if for no other reason.

In the course of his after-dinner speech on the occasion, the President, metaphorically speaking, took the secular press of the country across his knee, and administered a severe chastisement for its pertness and impertinence generally. I more than half suspect that he impressed one of Frankie's slippers into his service as a castigatory weapon. Doubtless the President is little disturbed by the press criticisms upon his official acts, but when the reporter smuggles himself into the domestic arena of a newly wedded pair, and proclaims to a curious public the awkward details of inexperienced housekeeping, it is time for the man of the house to assert himself.

But the President undoubtedly made a mistake. Quadri-millennial anniversaries are rare occurrences. The newspapers can come at him three hundred and sixty-five days in the year, with a day added for leap year. He may have to wait two hundred and fifty years for a like occasion to retaliate, which does not give him a fair chance. I ought to profit by the President's experience, but fear that the lesson is lost upon me. I

too, in a humbler way, have my grievance against the Press. Of course I am dependent upon the journals, which I read assiduously, for the news and events to be embodied in my record. Not unfrequently, in my hurried ramble through the telegraph dispatches, I run full tilt against a patent medicine advertisement of somebody's pills or bitters, which has smuggled itself into position, with an innocent head-gear about the Emperor William, or the land riots in Ireland. I have time and again pursued a promising item ambushed under a startling headline, only to fall headlong over a ventilating stove, or into a can of baking powder. Everybody is familiar with the benign and motherly countenance of Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, which has graced the columns of nearly every paper in the land, within the past ten years. Is it conceivable, that the remains of this venerable benefactor of her race can rest quietly in the grave, when her descendants are smuggling items like this into the news columns of respectable journals—"Three women can keep a secret when two of them are dead: all druggists keep Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound!"

Still, I continue to read the papers. I suppose that every item is interesting to somebody. I have no right to expect that the paper should be solely devoted to the signal service report, simply because I wish to know what the forecast of weather is for the "Lower Lake region," or whether a cold wave is approaching from Dakota. Miss Calenduline Ferguson is delighted with the announcement that she took the 11 o'clock train for Pimple Hill, where she will be the guest of Miss Mame Perkins. Miss Ferguson is a regular subscriber, and why should not the paper be made readable for her? After all, I fear that my indictment of the newspaper will fail.

People who keep no cash or expense account, are at a loss to determine at the end of the year, what has become of all their money. They can remember paying \$10 here, \$50 there and \$100 elsewhere, but that does not account for a large deficiency

which went 5, 10 or 25 cents at a time, and which is not remembered. I am told that the cost of a lady's suit is chiefly in the braid and buttons and lace trimmings. The chemical analysis of a \$20 hat would probably develop nineteen parts ribbons, beads and feathers, and one part hat. I doubt not that, if I were to ask any of my friends for a resumé from memory of the events of the past year, the account would be meagre indeed. The fact is, our lives are not made up of important events. The warp and woof is very subdued and unpretentious; the little things predominate; still when completed, even the most humble career is replete with interest. I have a great admiration for people who keep a diary, for they treasure up all the braid and buttons and bits of lace and ribbons and beads and feathers of events, which make history complete, and without which it is meaningless.

Since my November record, local history has pursued the even tenor of its way, with no startling contrasts. Events which had to come, like Christmas and New Years, and the election of officers in the Y. L. B. P. A., and the Y. M. A. C. H. L*., came at their appointed times. But events which needed somebody behind to boost them into prominence, like the Kaffe Klaatsch of the W. E. S. which was so marked a success at the home of the president, Mrs. Thorne, on the 2d of February, or the inauguration of ten minute street cars, have not been frequent.

Perhaps no recent event has been more effective in giving Auburn the air of a first-class, live city, than this same change from the old twenty minute schedule time of our street cars, to the new ten minute time table. Under the old regime, there was a kind of Sleepy Hollow, jog-trot air to the service. You waited twenty minutes for a car, only to find perhaps that that was just the twenty minutes when the car you wanted didn't run; or if it did, that the driver had a ten minute visit to make with another driver, or with some friend who wanted him to do

*Young Ladies' Bent Pin Association, and the Young Men's Anti-Canned Hash League.

an errand. Still the system had its advantages. If you wished to stop and make a call, the driver would wait for you, and you could catch the driver's eye if you were within a mile of the car and he would wait for you. It is different now; you have to lasso a driver to stop a car. Early in the fall, it was rumored that some New York capitalists contemplated buying up the road, which proved to be true. New cars, new horses, new switches or turnouts were added, and when all was ready, on the morning of the 21st of December the ten minute schedule was inaugurated. All day long cars rattled by, sometimes one, sometimes two or three together, sometimes on the track, sometimes in the middle of the road to let another car pass. Wayfarers ineffectually tried to stop a car to catch a ride, and passengers frantically tried to stop the car to get off, but in vain. The cars seemed to be crazy. They ran like a nest of disturbed ants, and they haven't entirely recovered from it yet. You will with difficulty stop a car, unless you get on the track in front of it with a red flag. If the car has passed you, by so much as an inch, all hope is gone. The drivers are running to make connections, not to carry passengers.

The final settlement of the site for the government building, at the corner of Green and Genesee streets, has at length been made, and the parties whose lands have been taken, have been paid therefor. Very few of our citizens know how narrowly we escaped losing the entire appropriation.

I fear that this determination has had a depressing effect upon the Salvation Army. I have noticed that it has not paraded lately with as much regularity as formerly, and that the parade has lacked in animation and zeal. Then, the clarion voice of the late captain has been missing, and the choruses have lacked coherence and have halted as to time. All the indications have pointed to a decline. This may be due to the prospective ejection of the army from its present quarters, or it may be in part due to the movement of Mr. R. Heber Tubbs

to establish a Free Church in the vicinity of the big dam, where he offers to donate a site, but in either event it is to be deplored. There is room enough in Auburn for the Gov't Building, the Salvation Army and the Big Dam church, or if there is not, we can get the corporation limits extended.

During the late session of the Board of Supervisors and since then, the project of building a new County Jail has been agitated, but without definite results. The necessity for a new and more commodious building for the retention of derelicts is uniformly conceded, but the project of building, when it has to be paid for, is never popular with one whose position depends upon the vote of the tax-payer.

Just before the holidays, the last remnant of Sheldon & Co's Axle works was removed to Wilkesbarre, Pa. This change diminishes the population of the city some 200 all told, and is to that extent to be deplored. It is understood that the motive which actuated the firm in making the change, was the cheaper facilities for manufacture afforded at Wilkesbarre, by reason of the natural gas with which that region is supplied. By the way, I notice that a couple of natural gas wells have recently been discovered in Indiana, which is thus far the most westerly development of this source of wealth. Can it be possible that, as the center of population of our nation advances towards the Pacific, gas wells also *go west*?

Two or three partial hearings have been had in the matter of Perkins against the city of Auburn, to recover upon contract for the erection of the Aurelius Avenue Bridge, but the litigation promises to be as protracted, as was the process of building the bridge for which compensation is sought. I have noted the following events by dates, lest I might seem negligent of duty in that particular.

DEC. 13.—A body of Italians attacked a party of workmen near Port Byron, and although severe injuries were inflicted by stabbing and beating, no deaths ensued. The offenders are now in custody awaiting trial.

DEC. 24.—Four convicts escape from the Asylum for insane criminals, all of whom were subsequently recaptured. There seems to be a method in the madness of these fellows. Perhaps however, they are not insane upon the subject of freedom, especially during the holiday season.

DEC. 27.—Some three score and ten of the large brained citizens of our community partook of a college alumni dinner at the Osborne House, the first gathering of its kind in the city of Auburn. Local reports speak of the feast of reason as highly refreshing, and the flow of soul as a regular freshet.

1887, JAN. 1.—The much enduring and sorely tried Southern Central Railroad passes under the control of the Lehigh Valley Railroad by lease, which extends far down the centuries. Auburn's little investment of \$400,000 seems thus to be permanently provided for, and our posterity to the remotest future will have a vested interest in the road.

JAN. 3.—Steel's drug store, for seventy years in the family of its founder, Dr. Richard Steel, passes into alien hands. The last proprietor, Mr. Joseph N. Steel, turns his face westward, and seeks new fortunes in the whirl of Kansas City's phenomenal growth.

JAN. 10.—The most destructive conflagration of the year occurred; Kennedy's cigar and tobacco manufactory and Bray's trunk and harness shop, near Genesee street bridge, being destroyed, with a loss of some \$25,000. I think it was about 50 years ago this winter, that Barber & Coventry's tobacco factory was burned near the same locality.

JAN. 13.—The Wall street M. E. church is dedicated, the enlargement thereof having been fully completed.

Meagre as this list of events may appear, it is all that I have noted.

In a general way the current of events has not varied much from former years. I might except the fact that the social progressive euchre parties, which were the distinctive craze of

last year, are in a measure under ban. What has supplanted them I am not advised. I was told by a local dealer, early in the season, that the trade in "poker chips" had never before been so active. I suspect that this trade was encouraged, rather to build up a local industry engaged in the manufacture of chips, than to countenance the great national game of poker.

The toboggan club mended its finances by extending its membership, which enabled it to mend the slide for the opening season. Unfortunately the weather will have its own way, and this season it has seemed to have a pique against tobogganing. This is doubtless owing to the fishery troubles with Canada; either the Canadians are holding back toboggan weather, or the weather is boycotting tobogganing, because it is a Canadian invention.

A formidable rival to tobogganing has arisen, through the inadvertance of the Common Council in granting permission to the boys to use West Genesee street and Logan street hills to ride down upon "bobs," after 6 o'clock in the evening. The boy puts the usual liberal construction upon this license, and extends it to every declivity in the city, and without limit as to time of day. The only thing that stops him is a thaw.

During the prevalence of good sleighing after the holidays, evening sleighride parties were much in vogue. The resonant tin horn, at early and late hours of the night, told unmistakably of the coming or going of the well filled sleighs of pleasure seekers. I am told that the attractions of a sleigh-ride are cold feet and a tin horn. All that you have to furnish is the horn.

With all these out-door attractions, I notice that the free reading room in Exchange street does not lack for patrons. The cheerful light attracts me to the rooms occasionally, of an evening on my way home from my work, and I find no lack of readers. I have suspected that occasionally a young man has found the reading room a convenient place to drop into, until the entertainment at the W. C. T. U. rooms, across the way,

closed. His gallantry would not admit of his letting the young ladies go home alone.

The vagaries of the weather for the past three months, would require the services of a proficient stenographer to make anything like an accurate record.

I learned, a short time since, that some distinguished English scientist had determined, from a compilation of statistics, that the "Lower Lake" region of the United States, ranked fourth of all places upon the globe for its changeable or uneven temperature. It has certainly sustained its reputation, for the last three months. On the 13th of November, a foot and a half of snow fell. This gradually melted away, and alternate snows and rains have been characteristic of the weather ever since. Whether this has been due to the discontinuance of the weather signals at the corner of North and Genesee streets, I am not prepared to assert. But it would not be strange if the weather should play pranks, when it found that it had no one watching it. A prominent feature of the weather has been the prevalence of easterly winds, as well as the prevalence of high winds. Several times during the fall, and particularly on the 18th of November, fierce gales have swept the upper lakes, with great destruction of property and loss of life. During the fall, fifty-seven vessels and one hundred and thirty lives were lost. This startling loss is partially due to the great increase in navigation upon the lakes during the season, resulting from the activity in the iron industry.

The latest phase of weather effects has been the slippery walks of late January and early February, which have sorely tried the equilibrium of the just as well as the unjust. The ancient chestnut, musty and mildewed, that the wicked stand on slippery places, has been forced into prominence from the very nature of the case. Several falls have resulted in broken arms, but statistics thus far show no discrimination in favor of the just over the unjust, upon a slippery walk. The unusual occur-

rence of a thunder storm in winter was witnessed on the 28th of January at night, the storm being light here, but in one instance fatal in its effects in Illinois.

The late rains and thaws have set the Ohio river upon its annual rampage, and on Saturday, February 5th, the water was fifty six feet above low water mark. A little more rain would cause much damage.

A few days since, when the rain had melted all the snow from the ground, and a balmy southern air prevailed, I noticed that the English sparrows began to chatter and chirp and quarrel in my apple-trees, as if it were absolutely necessary to begin at once to build nests and go to housekeeping. I have my opinion of a bird that does not know enough to wait till after the 14th of February before even thinking of housekeeping, and I rejoiced the next morning to see everything frozen up in good old winter fashion, and every straw, that would answer for a bird's nest, covered with at least four inches of snow.

I grudgingly accord to my necrological record the large space it claims. Noiselessly, but steadily and relentlessly, death claims its own. Day by day the roll of the departed lengthens. Of the more distinguished, who have died since my last report, I have noted the following :

Nov. 18.—In New York, Gen'l Chester A. Arthur, ex-president of the United States, age 56. General Arthur's health had been steadily failing ever since he left the presidential chair, in March, 1885.

Nov. 21.—In Boston, Mass., Charles Francis Adams, age 79. Mr. Adams had also been in failing health and of impaired faculties for some ten years, and for two years prior to his death had been unable to recognize even the members of his own family. He was the grandson of President John Adams and the son of President John Quincy Adams. He was candidate for vice-president upon the Free Soil ticket, headed by Martin Van Buren, in 1848. He was appointed minister to England by President Lincoln in 1861, holding the position seven years.

NOV. 25.—At West New Brighton, S. I., Erastus Brooks, age 72. He was a printer by trade, a journalist by profession, and a politician by force of circumstances. He and his brother James founded the *New York Express* in 1836, and Erastus continued his connection with it till 1877. He was also one of the founders of the Associated Press.

NOV. 29.—Dr. John P. Gray, age 61, for many years superintendent of the State Lunatic Asylum at Utica.

DEC. 26.—At Washington, General John A. Logan, United States senator for Illinois, after a brief illness, age 61.

1887, JAN. 2.—In New York, Bishop Horatio Potter, at the advanced age of 84.

JAN. 10.—In New York, John Roach, aged 71, a noted ship-builder and contractor for government vessels.

JAN. 14.—In New York; Henry B. Stanton, age 82. Mr. Stanton was formerly a resident of Seneca Falls, and will be remembered as an energetic anti-slavery advocate in *ante-bellum* days. He will also be remembered as the husband of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, one of the advanced thinkers of her day, who advocated a reform in woman's dress, notably endorsing the "Bloomer costume" and for some time wearing it in public. It had a limited and brief acceptance with the ladies. Mrs. Stanton survives her husband.

JAN. 14.—At Worcester, Mass., Abby Kelly Foster, aged 76, another old time anti-slavery advocate, and a vigorous reformer in many lines. She refused to pay taxes because she was not allowed to vote, and several times her property was levied upon and sold to pay taxes, her friends bidding it in at the sale.

JAN. 16.—Gen'l Wm. B. Hazen, aged 56, chief signal officer at Washington since 1870. He was responsible for the cold waves and heated terms which have, with characteristic irregularity, visited us since the establishment of the weather bureau.

JAN. 18.—Prof. E. L. Youmans, age 65, a distinguished scientist and founder of the *Popular Science Monthly*, in 1872.

Of foreign dignitaries, the most distinguished was Lord Iddesleigh (Sir Stafford Henry Northcote) minister of foreign affairs in the Salisbury Cabinet, who died suddenly of an affection of the heart, at London, January 12, age 68. He had just been unceremoniously removed from the cabinet.

In our immediate vicinity, I have noted the following :

1886, Nov. 20.—Albert Garrett age 62, a respected citizen and, in bygone days, an alderman.

Nov. 21.—Thomas W. Smith, age 65. Mr. Smith was a son of the late David B. Smith of Port Byron and father of Mr. Wilbur B. Smith of the firm of Dunning & Co., and had been a man of leisure about the city for several years.

Nov. 26.—Moses M. Frye, a prominent farmer of the town of Owasco, age 83. He was the father of Dr. M. M. Frye of this city.

Nov. 28.—Richard C. Steel, age 49. Mr. Steel's death occurred after a brief illness and was a great shock to our community. He was one of the most prominent and successful lawyers in Central New York, and his death was widely and deeply lamented.

DEC. 9.—At Cayuga village, Mrs. Victoria Lalliet at the advanced age of 103 years. It is expected that the interesting and romantic career of this somewhat noted woman will be given to the society at length at an early day.

1887, JAN. 11.—In Texas, where he had established his home several years since, Col. Sidney Mead, age 52. Col. Mead was a veteran of the late war and distinguished for his courage and soldierly character. Early in the the war, he was a prisoner in the Libby Prison at Richmond, from which he made his escape and reached our lines in safety after startling adventures. He was elected sheriff of this county after his return from the war.

JAN. 18.—Wm. H. H. Tyler, age 69. He was for many years prominently engaged as a carpenter and builder in our city.

JAN. 23.—Capt. George Crocker, age 85. Some fifty years

ago, several New Bedford and Nantucket sea captains, having amassed a competence in whaling, migrated to Central New York and settled in and near Auburn to pass the remainder of their lives in quiet. Capt. Crocker was of the number; others were Capts. Coffin, Fosdick, Chase, Swain, Folger, Cottle, Hussey and others; all long since gathered to their fathers. Capt. Crocker survived the entire body.

1887, JAN. 30.—At Aurora, Henry Morgan, age 76 years 6 months. Mr. Morgan was well known in this community having, until within a few years, had prominent family connections here. He was a prominent business man, and for many years an active and influential politician.

FEB. 4.—At Auburn, Vincent Kenyon, age 80, father of Mrs. E. B. Parmelee of this city. Mr. Kenyon was formerly quite prominent as a business man in this vicinity, but impaired health has for many years kept him secluded. During the years 1842 and 1843 he represented the southeastern district of this county in the house of assembly at Albany.

My record turns from our quiet community to glance at the occurrences of the outside world. The chief event of popular interest in our metropolis has been the bringing to justice of the board of aldermen of 1884, for the offence of bribery in disposing of the franchise of the Broadway Surface Railroad. The first alderman brought to trial was declared to be insane, and was released under bonds. The second succeeded in securing a disagreement of the jury on his first trial, but a second trial immediately following resulted in his conviction. The third was also convicted readily and the two remaining this side of the border will doubtless share the fate of their associates. This episode in New York city administration will go into history with the Tweed ring abuses, as one of the great rascalities of the age, which has been persistently and successfully prosecuted to merited punishment.

Another episode which has lately attracted especial attention,

has been the attempt of the Roman church to discipline the Rev. Dr. McGlynn of St. Stephen's church, for heterodox utterances in the Henry George campaign for mayor last fall. The doctor seems to have been a little off in his views of socialism, holding with Henry George and others of that ilk, that land is the common property of all, and should be held in common. The church disclaims this doctrine, and mildly remonstrated with the doctor for proclaiming such views, whereat the doctor became balky. The church insisted, and ordered the doctor to Rome, whereat he became recalcitrant and was removed, much to the displeasure of his congregation. Evidently the doctor is honest in his convictions, but the breach between him and his church is too wide to be spanned over, and his future lies in other paths than those of the church of Rome. It is difficult to reconcile Father McGlynn's appeal to the early fathers of the church, for authority for his position upon the land question, with his rebuke of the later fathers for their condemnation of Galileo and Copernicus.

The labor troubles, which were so prominent in the early part of the year, have continued, but though wide-spread, it seems to me with constantly declining energy. The frequent failures to secure relief, the evident result that in nearly every instance the strikers were by far the greater losers by the movement, have set the more thoughtful of the laboring class to look with less hope upon a forced assent to their demands, through the instrumentality of strikes. Moreover, it is not the American way of doing things, and if I mistake not, the era of labor strikes is rapidly coming to an end.

The great eight-hour strike, which was in progress in Chicago at the time of my last report, suddenly collapsed by an order from the head of the workingmen's organization to discontinue it, and the men, who were employes in the packing houses, were glad to return to their places. Late in November a general strike for more pay and less time was inaugurated by

the street-car employes of San Francisco. The companies declined to make concessions and employed substitutes for the strikers. Two or three explosions of dynamite bombs under cars on their passage, developed a spirit in sympathy with the Chicago anarchists, but fortunately no one was seriously injured by the explosions. This strike is still in progress. In January, a strike was begun by the coal handlers on the Jersey side of New York. A reasonable demand was made for an increase of wages which was denied by the coal companies. A strike was ordered which gradually extended until it absorbed several other lines of labor, the long shoremen, freight handlers, &c. No serious disturbances have occurred, a result chiefly due doubtless to efficient police precautions. The dynamite fiend was at work last week, and succeeded in exploding a bomb upon the old dominion steamer *Guyandotte*, as she was going out of the harbor, damaging her so that she returned to her dock, but fortunately causing no loss of life. These concomitants of labor strikes, although having the sympathy of few if any of the strikers, are highly detrimental to their cause.

In December last, a Trades' Union was organized at Columbus, Ohio, which it was claimed would have some influence in counteracting labor troubles. No open results of its action have yet been observed, but it is greatly to be desired that the labor interests of the land may settle down to quiet productiveness, satisfactory alike to the employer and the employed.

Our sea-board community has continued to be exercised over the fisheries trouble; our Canadian friends showing no disposition to yield any of the rights which they claim. The United States senate has passed a measure designed to retaliate upon the Canadians by closing our sea-ports to them, but the House thus far fails to endorse it. Meantime, the matter is being considered by the home government, and doubtless some amicable adjustment will be reached. Our congress has also just enacted

an Interstate Commerce law, which has in view, among other things, the regulation of railroad freights for the benefit of intermediate shippers. It is expected that under the law, coal can be shipped from the mines in Pennsylvania to Auburn, as cheap as it can be shipped over the same route through Auburn to Fair Haven, some thirty-five or forty miles further on. But whether the Auburn rates will be lowered to meet the Fair Haven rates, or the Fair Haven rates will be increased to meet the Auburn rates, is a mooted question. There is much diversity of opinion, as to the operation of the law, and its constitutionality.

A ripple of excitement upon the Theological sea has been occasioned by the trial of the professors of the Andover Theological Seminary for heresy. The charges were argued before the commission appointed for the hearing, and the cases submitted for decision some two months since. No conclusion has been made public as yet.

On the 18th of January, Miss Nina Van Zandt, an heiress, of the city of Chicago, took out a license to marry August Spies, one of the condemned anarchists awaiting execution in the Chicago jail. She announced herself as of sound mind. The sheriff, too tender-hearted to willingly make a widow, declined to allow the marriage to be solemnized in the jail, and as Spies could not well be spared from the jail to attend the ceremony, that seemed to settle it. But true love knows no restraint of bolts or bars, and when August gave his brother a power of attorney to marry Nina by proxy for him, the silly girl went through the ceremony, and now calls herself Mrs. Spies, and has opened an office to sell her husband's biography. One hardly knows whether to pity or scorn such a simpleton.

During the present winter, two of those terrible holocausts which make us shudder at their details, have occurred. The first was a collision of two trains near Tiffin, Ohio, on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, and occurred in the early morning

of January 4th. The cars were burned, and seventeen passengers perished in the flames in sight of their companions, who could do nothing to succor them. More terrible was the catastrophe a month later, at White River junction, near Woodstock, Vt., when, on the morning of the 5th of February, a train of two sleepers and two passenger cars left the track and went off the bridge into the river some 50 feet below. The heavy ice kept the cars above water, where they slowly burned, consuming some forty human beings imprisoned therein. It was one of the most horrible accidents of modern times.

I turn to glance for a moment at the movement of affairs in the old world before closing. The prominent characteristic has been a condition of uncertainty and uneasiness, which has developed a distrust of one another's motives, among the crowned heads of Europe.

The complications in western Europe resulting from the abdication of Alexander, King of Bulgaria, at the instance of Russia, are still unsettled. At times the situation has assumed a decidedly squally aspect, but the manifest aversion of the great powers to a general European war, which the slightest spark would kindle, has postponed, if not wholly averted an outbreak. Early in November, the Bulgarian Sobranje elected Prince Waldemar, youngest son of the King of Denmark, to succeed Alexander. This was not congenial to Russia, so King Christian advised his son to decline the honor, or rather declined it for him. Russia suggested Nicholas of Mingrelia for the vacant throne. This potentate is the proprietor of a little principality on the eastern coast of the Black Sea in Trans-Caucasia. He isn't a first class power. It is said of him that he accepted a *douceur* of \$10,000 as an inducement not to divorce his wife within a year after marriage. The Ottoman Port does not regard the candidacy of Nicholas with favor. It was suggested at one time that an American be selected for the vacant throne. I don't know why the scheme was abandoned. Geronimo

could be spared and would make as acceptable a ruler as Nicholas. Ex-President Hayes is also out of a job. Evidently the European powers are looking with some favor upon American nobility. It was even hinted during the past year, that the royal family of England was considering the propriety of making American alliances. It is not improbable that an American girl might be found who would take the chances of marrying an English nobleman. At any rate one wanted to marry August Spies, one of the condemned anarchists, and did marry him. Not exactly a left handed marriage, but a kind of over-the-left nuptial. We can spare her after August is executed.

Italy is greatly exercised over the failure to secure a permanent foothold in the Soudan, on the west shore of the Red Sea ; her forces having been roughly handled by the natives. The relations between France and Germany, although placid upon the surface, cover troubled waters beneath. The feud between the two peoples which dates back centuries, is none the less bitter for the supremacy of Germany. Bismarck rules with no uncertain hand. When his legislature declines to let him prepare for war in time of peace by voting the budget he prepares, he closes the session and sends the members home to their constituents to be taught better manners. It is not quite clear why Bismarck would strengthen his army at this time.

France also has her troubles. The failure of her legislature to vote the supplies asked for, lately resulted in the formation of a new cabinet, or substantially a change in governmental policy.

England has been kept busy watching her various interests. The occupation of Burmah has entailed no little care and expense to her eastern possessions. At home, the troublesome little Emerald Isle has been a source of constant annoyance; the land question and the collection of rents, by their complications irritating the masses, while the friends of Home Rule sit by and abide their time. The disgraceful developments in

her divorce courts during the year have been absolutely astounding. The licentiousness of the English nobility vies with that of the court of the Bourbons in the worst days of the absolute monarchy. England, too, has not been unmindful of the necessity of guarding against the chances of a European war. Her war budget split her cabinet and ostensibly occasioned the withdrawal of Lord Randolph Churchill therefrom. But on the whole the nation has been happy and prosperous. On the 28th of June next, will occur the fiftieth anniversary of Victoria's coronation. Great preparations are making to celebrate the event. John Bull is at his wit's end to know what to do. He wants to build something or establish something to commemorate the event. What shall it be? Meantime, the Royal Yacht Club has arranged for a yacht race around the British Isles in commemoration of the event. It is to take substantially the same course that the retreating Spanish Armada took just 299 years ago. Our yacht club has been invited to join in the contest, but of course the Puritan and the Mayflower could not take part, for it is to be a cutter race; besides, it would not be good manners for us to go over and take the prize on such an occasion. Possibly the Dauntless, which is to make a race across the Atlantic in March, will, if she survives, enter the race.

It is worthy of note that Victoria has reigned longer than any former British Queen; Elizabeth, who comes next, reigning but forty-five years. It is not certain, however, that Elizabeth did not reign *more* in her forty-five years than Victoria has in her fifty years. It is also worthy of note that the third edition of monarchs in England seem to have the best staying properties. The three longest reigning monarchs prior to Victoria, have been Henry III, fifty-six years; Edward III, fifty years and George III, sixty years.

Victoria will be sixty-eight years old on the 24th of May

next, and may reign some years yet. Every year of her reign shortens that of her successor, the Prince of Wales.

But I must hasten to a close. I have only time to refer to two or three items, the development of which must await a future record.

On Sunday, February 6, the great explorer, Henry M. Stanley, sailed from Suez for Zanzibar, on the eastern coast of Africa, to enter upon his expedition for the relief of Dr. Emin Bey and his colony, who are surrounded by hostile natives near the sources of the Nile. Mr. Stanley, after his last Congo expedition, had come to this country, and had commenced a series of lectures upon his travels, when, on the 11th of December, he received a dispatch calling him back to Europe. It was presumed at first that the message would take him back to the Congo, to recapture the station at Stanley Pool, which the natives had taken, but the result showed that it was to place him in charge of the expedition upon which he has gone. He immediately cancelled his lecture engagements and sailed at once for England. On the 13th of January, he was accorded the freedom of the city of London, an honor which is reserved as a most distinguished mark of greatness for the recipient.

I should not forget to mention, that Lord Tennyson has revisited Locksley Hall, after an absence of 60 years, and reports a very gloomy condition of affairs. Probably the old rookery needs repairing.

The scientific world is elated at the discovery of a comet on the 18th of January last, by Dr. Thorne, director of the observatory at Cordova, in the Argentine Confederation, South America. It is said to resemble the great comet of 1880, and is on its way north. Two other smaller comets were discovered about the same time. Whether they presage war, famine or pestilence remains to be seen. Very likely the South American comet was what caused the cholera to cross the

Atlantic from the Mediterranean to South America, because it could not get transportation across the North Atlantic. If it should follow the Isthmus up into this part of the country, or if we should get into a brush with Great Britain on account of the fishery troubles, it would set at rest the mooted question as to whether comets are really precursors of disaster.

And here, my dear doctor, at the dawn of our New Year, let us abide. The past is secure, what the future has in store for us, belongs to the record when the future shall have become the past.

Very truly yours,

B. B. SNOW,

Historiographer.

RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

AUBURN, N. Y., Feb. 14, 1888.

My Dear Doctor Schliemann:

Every one of us periodically opens a new quarry of good intentions. We work it assiduously, while our besetting sins sit complacently by, selects the most promising samples of our work and bears them off to the imps who are constantly engaged in paving a region where pavements are of short duration.

Perhaps I have made the foregoing statement too broad. I am desirous of being in good company, but if there is any one to whom the statement does not apply, he is at liberty to regard himself as the exception of which all general rules admit.

I was impressed with this bit of philosophy when I recalled the resolve I made upon renewing my correspondence with you, to make my reports at regular intervals, and with as much minuteness of detail as might be consistent with the importance of the subject. This tardy compliance with my resolve may relieve the prickings of my conscience, and, with the confession of my dereliction, partially restore me to your confidence.

The year which has just ended has not been prolific in history, that is in the sense in which we usually understand the term. It has been a year of jubilee. The Temple of Janus has been closed. Throughout the wide world, nations have been at peace and war has no where been waged among men. Is it the calm that precedes the storm? Let us hope not. Still the year has not been without significant preparations for war. Prince Bismarck has been standing on the French frontier with a chip on his shoulder, which France has been aching to

knock off, but dared not. An apparent sympathy between France and Russia was sufficient to put Germany on her guard, and her standing army has been greatly strengthened. Russia has not been idle. The settlement of the Bulgarian struggle by the election of Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg, as Prince of Bulgaria, on July 3, was offensive to Russia, and not particularly gratifying to the other European powers. Ferdinand has, however, strengthened himself by judicious action, and seems to have come to stay. Meantime, Russia has been massing forces on her western frontier, without avowed purpose, but much to the suspicion of Germany and Austria. In November the Czar took it into his head to run over to Copenhagen, and make a family visit to the royal family of Denmark. While there, he concluded to run down and shake hands with Bismarck and the Emperor William before going home. This little trip was attended with beneficial results, and possibly, deferred a declaration of war between the two countries. It has since been made public that a treaty, offensive and defensive as against Russia, exists between Germany and Austria. Of the domestic affairs of the nations, the repeated attempts to assassinate the Czar, have been a source of constant fear. The serious illness of the Crown Prince of Germany, the result of cancerous affection of the throat, has occasioned much solicitude, especially in view of the advanced age of the Emperor William, who celebrated his 90th birthday on the 20th of March. I noticed a statement also, that the prince's mother-in-law, Queen Victoria, was solicitous for a settlement, proportioned to her station, to be made by the Crown Prince, upon his consort, in view of his precarious health, an evidence of the providential oversight of even royalty over its progeny.

The French Republic has been exercised by its ill-feeling towards Germany, and by some complications resulting from the border relations of the two nations, as well as by factional intrigues at home. On the 2d of Dec., M. Grevy, president of

the republic, after several ineffectual attempts to form a cabinet, resigned. He was succeeded by M. Sadi Carnot, who was elected Dec. 3, and installed president of the republic, with a narrow escape from the anarchy and bloodshed which has so often, in the past, characterized a change of administration in France.

Of the other continental nations of Europe, Spain has been irritated by the intrigues of the Ex Queen Isabella, but the old lady has now been banished the realm, and the regent queen can rule in peace the realm of her baby king.

Italy has been pursuing the even tenor of her way, the slight difference of opinion between King Humbert and the pope, as to the temporal possessions of the latter, not perceptibly disturbing the pleasant relations between the two dignitaries. Turkey still dreams away a useless existence as a nation, further than as lessening the strength of some other nation by not being of her possessions. Her sole strength is in her weakness. June 1, she formally ceded to Great Britain the Island of Cyprus which, it will be remembered, was placed in care of Great Britain in 1878, at the close of the war between Russia and Turkey.

Great Britain while nominally at peace, has been sorely agitated with domestic strife. Her relations with Ireland have been a source of constant turmoil, and the attempt to enforce the coercion act, passed July 8, has resulted in much bitter feeling and no apparent good. The solution of the Home Rule question is as distant, to all appearances, as when it was first broached. But peace and general prosperity have prevailed throughout the realm. On the 21st of June, the Queen's Jubilee was celebrated, it being the fiftieth anniversary of Victoria's accession to the throne of England. The pageant in the city of London was the most elaborate and imposing which the city ever witnessed. The jubilee year was inaugurated in India, February 16, last, by the release of 25,000 imprisoned debtors and politi-

cal offenders. The celebration of the event throughout the queen's dominions seems to have been general, sincere and enthusiastic, as her majesty deserved.

On the 1st of January, Pope Leo XIII celebrated his jubilee, it being the fiftieth anniversary of his entrance upon the priesthood. The chief feature of the jubilee was the presentation of gifts to his holiness from all nations of the globe, and of untold value. Our president modestly recognized the occasion by the presentation of a copy of the constitution of the United States. Considering the fact that our government makes no appropriation for presents to foreign dignitaries, this gift of the president was very appropriate, as any expense therefor, that he could not charge up as postage or stationery, would have to come out of his own pocket.

The advent of the Hon. Wm. F. Cody in London, in April last, with his show of the Wild West, was an event which must not be overlooked. Mr. Cody, who is more widely known on this side of the Atlantic as Buffalo Bill, seems to have taken the London world by storm. There was not enough of Buffalo Bill alone to go around to all the feastings tendered by royalty and the nobility, so the cowboys and Sioux Indians had to be impressed into service as substitutes. No such hit has been made in London from this side the Atlantic, since Artemas Ward captured the London public with his lecture on Salt Lake City and the Mormons.

Later in the year, the distinguished pugilist, John L. Sullivan, became the center of attraction, and still continues an object of almost reverential awe in the English sporting world. The Prince of Wales has been especially delighted with the great American Mauler, and has not disguised his admiration of him.

I must not forget to follow the career of our old friend and co-worker, Henry M. Stanley, of Congo river fame. Mr. Stanley set out from Zanzibar, on the east coast of Africa, on the 24th of February, upon his expedition for the relief of Emin

Bey. Emin has been in the equatorial provinces of Africa some ten years. He holds a commission from the Egyptian government, and was sent to his present station by the unfortunate General Gordon, prior to his retreat to Khartoum. For two years, his communications with the outside world have been cut off by the savage tribes surrounding him. He is reported to be ruling his province well, and to be in no hurry to return to civilization. He appears to be a dignitary among his adopted people, has become a good Mohammedan, and has a harem of the most becoming African maidens, as is the custom of royalty in Central Africa. It has been intimated that he does not want to be relieved; that all he cares for is more ammunition, and a convoy to get some 75,000 lbs. of ivory, which he has collected, to market. In any event, Stanley is on his way to the doctor's relief by way of the Congo river. It was reported at Berlin, January 10th, that Stanley had reached Emin Bey, December 22d, but the report was subsequently denied. But it is past time for Stanley to be there, and the trials he has undergone and the suspense which his long journey has occasioned, will make us all the more anxious to read the \$5 book he will publish on his return to civilization.

But I linger too long in the Old World. Perhaps the most startling national disturbance on this side the Atlantic, was the revolution of July 1, in the Sandwich Islands. King Kalakaua, or King Calico, as the small boy of the press dubbed him upon his recent visit to this country, had been going too fast, he had been spending money faster than he earned it, and as a result, had resorted to means for increasing his exchequer, which was not wholly to the liking of his people and in accordance with strict regal integrity. So his people rose in their might and demanded reform. The king must dismiss his advisers, and accede to certain modifications of the constitution, or they, the aforesaid people, would pitch his majesty into the Pacific, and run the monarchy according to their notions of an Imperial

government. The king acquiesced—he could not do otherwise and be king—and he wisely concluded that he would be more useful to his people as a live king, with limited powers, than as a deposed sovereign, food for fishes in the bottom of the Pacific. Since the bloodless revolution, the government has run smoothly, and to the apparent satisfaction of sovereign and people. Aside from this episode, and a feeble attempt at revolution in Central America, the nations of the western world have maintained their usual quiet. The unpleasantness between our own country and our Canadian neighbors, resulting from the fishery question, has continued, and although Great Britain has sent Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, one of her distinguished diplomats, to confer with our authorities as to a settlement, nothing has of yet come of it.

So much for the affairs of nations. I have noted some domestic events with specific dates, which have seemed to me deserving a place in my record. At the date of my last record, the trial of the "boodlers," or New York aldermen, for the great swindle in the Broadway franchise was in progress. O'Neil was convicted, February 11, and sentenced to four and one-half years in State Prison and a fine of \$2,000. The trial of Jacob Sharp for bribery, was next taken up, and proved to be one of the most remarkable trials on record. The jury was completed June 15, after an examination of 1,196 jurors. The trial ended June 30, with the conviction of the prisoner, being the first instance of the successful prosecution of bribery in this state. The triumph was of short duration. The case went to the court of appeals, judgment was reversed and the defendant released from custody on bail, November 30. The final disposition of the case is important, as establishing the fact that the crime of bribery cannot be successfully prosecuted in this state.

FEB. 28.—Roxalana Druse was executed by hanging at Herkimer, being the first instance of the execution of a woman for crime in this state.

MARCH 12.—The yachts *Coronet* and *Dauntless* sail from New York for a race across the Atlantic. The *Coronet* was successful, reaching Queenstown, March 27, after a voyage of fourteen days, nineteen hours, three minutes, and twenty-three hours ahead of the *Dauntless*.

MAY 4.—Queen Kapiolani, consort of King Kalakaua, pays her respects to the president. The queen is on her way to London to attend Victoria's jubilee, having been invited specially by her majesty, Victoria. Kapiolani preferred to go across lots rather than around the Horn, so she landed at San Francisco, came across to Chicago, thence to New York and then to Washington. She is accompanied by her sister. They are royally received and entertained at Washington, are shown all the sights, and return to New York, whence they sail for England, May 25. I doubt not that the Barbarian queen regarded Victoria's invitation to her grand party, in the nature of a command to be there. Not unlikely she expects Victoria to meet her at the dock and take her up to her house, and give her the great room during her stay. The occidental queen returned by the same route she went, late in July, but no reporter successfully interviewed her as to whether she had had a good time or not. She hastened home, to be at the side of her husband during the trials of revolution, which had culminated in her absence.

JULY 9.—Dr. McGlynn, the recalcitrant Catholic priest of New York, who was silenced for complications growing out of his adhesion to the cause of Henry George, is formally excommunicated from the church of Rome. Although he claims that he will be restored upon hearing, he is too sensible a man not to know that his relations with the Roman Church are severed forever.

I omitted to say that the president and Frankie spent a few days trout fishing up in the Adirondacks, in the latter part of June.

SEPT. 23.—The cholera comes as a passenger in a ship from the Mediterranean, but is compelled to stay down New York bay in quarantine. Having got so far, it will doubtless commence its tour of our country with the opening of summer travel.

SEPT. 30—OCT. 22.—The president and Frankie make an extended tour of the west and south, to get something of an idea of the extent of their realm, and incidentally to extend their acquaintance. It is usually dangerous for a presidential aspirant to swing around the circle, but when he has a shrewd and attractive consort, the danger seems to be lessened.

SEPT. 27—30.—The most exciting of the International Yacht races, for the America cup, took place in New York harbor. The Scotch yacht, Thistle, which had easily distanced any and all craft on the other side the Atlantic, came over confident of carrying back the cup, because she was built to do it.

The Mayflower and Puritan, which had successfully defended the cup in the races of the two preceding years, yielded the honor of attempting its defence to the new but untried sloop, Volunteer, designed and built by Capt. Burgess, the designer and builder of both Puritan and Mayflower. The Volunteer fulfilled her designer's expectations and won both of the first two races, and secured the cup to America until some faster craft can be designed across the water.

Nov. 11.—The last scene in the tragedy of the Chicago anarchists was enacted. Of the seven condemned men, four, Parsons, Spies, Fischer and Engel, were hanged. The sentences of Fielden and Schwab, were commuted to imprisonment for life. Lingg, on the day previous to that fixed for the execution, took the executioner's duty into his own hands, and deliberately blew his head off with a dynamite bomb. Strenuous efforts were made throughout this country and in Europe to bring influence to bear to save the lives of the condemned, but for once at least, justice was firm. The pitiful spectacle of a

Chicago simpleton, Miss Nina VanZandt, who had become so enamored of Spies, one of the condemned, as to marry him by proxy, is a curious commentary upon the sentimentality of that portion of our female community that rejoices to pour out its sympathy for the felon, no matter how little such sympathy may be deserved.

NOV. 20.—Barnum's menagerie was burned in its winter quarters, at Bridgeport, Conn. Barnum has been successfully burned out two or three times before, and this disaster promises to be as good an advertisement as any of his previous misfortunes. Already has he bought up the chief collections of animals in Europe, and the promise of the greatest show on earth for the coming season, bids fair for faithful fulfillment.

DEC. 18.—The great raft of logs, which was being towed from Nova Scotia to New York, was abandoned in a storm, off the Island of Nantucket. It was found a week later, by vessels sent out to look after it, completely wrecked, its logs floating, each on its own hook, far out at sea.

DEC. 21.—Our neighboring city of Rochester, was badly demoralized by the explosion of naphtha, which had escaped into the sewers, from a pipe leading to the Gas Works. Two or three buildings were burned and five lives lost, as a result of the explosion.

I have noted but few local events with strict accuracy of date :

FEB. 11.—A fire in rear of the Groot block, on State street, destroyed about \$1,000 worth of property, including two horses.

MARCH 6.—E. D. Clapp's new house on West Genesee street, which was just approaching completion, was burned.

APRIL 16.—Corning's shoe store, on the Genesee street bridge, was burned.

Several alarms of fire have occurred, and some unimportant fires have damaged buildings to a slight extent, but the Fire Department has proved its efficiency and worth by its prompt

action and successful contest with the flames, whenever called upon. The annual parade of the Fire Department occurred Sept. 13th, and was distinguished for the sobriety and manly deportment of those who took part, as well as for the excellence of the display.

Notwithstanding the somewhat unfavorable business outlook, the building improvements of the city will compare favorably with former years.

The front addition to the Central Church, on William street, was completed in September, and formally dedicated on the 27th. The style of architecture is a departure from the prevailing styles of church architecture in the city, and is very creditable to the taste of the architect.

The new Bank of Auburn building, on Genesee street, opposite the head of State street, was completed and first occupied for banking purposes, October 17th. How this conservative institution felt in its new quarters, one would be curious to know; probably as awkward as we all feel in a new suit of clothes. Late in October, the Second Presbyterian Church, completed its renovation externally by a coat of paint, which greatly improved its appearance. Some needed repairs were also made to the steeple—notably the lubrication of the weather vane, of which I have elsewhere spoken.

On the 27th of October, the Gaylord House, on State street, renovated and improved, was re-opened as "The Avery," with Ex-Sheriff Myers, proprietor. The new name is in compliment to the owner, Mr. E. H. Avery.

The new Government building, at the corner of Genesee and Green streets, consists as yet of a high board fence and a derrick, so far as the outside world is concerned. Rumor has it that those inside the fence say, that excavations for the foundation have been made, at a depth greater than Shimer reached in delving for building sand. It is reported now that vigorous work will be at once commenced on the building, with the open-

ing season. The truth of this report is reinforced by the fact that this is the presidential year, and the incorruptible voter will not refuse a job, even on government work.

Early in the spring, the residence of the late M. L. Browne, on North street, was purchased by the Roman bishop of this diocese, and converted into an orphan asylum, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church.

During the summer months, the New York Central passenger depot was renovated and greatly improved, and is now one of the most commodious and convenient depots on the line of this road.

The progress upon the new High School building, which was to have been completed September 1st, has been provokingly slow. It is not expected that it will be occupied for school purposes before the opening of another school year.

Our old friend, the Aurelius avenue bridge, the "two-arch stone bridge," of ten years' controversy, still thrusts its shadow at stated intervals upon the sunshine of our municipal prosperity. An item in the daily papers, now and then, advises an interested public, that the suit of Perkins vs. The City of Auburn, was called before the referee and adjourned to allow the plaintiff to complete some figures, or for some other equally potent reason.

The project of a new County Jail has been agitated for several years, and has just culminated in a resolution of the Board of Supervisors to build one the current year, and the contract therefor has just been awarded to Messrs. Barnes & Stout; the work to commence at once. The material of the old jail is to be used in building the new one, but the Supervisors were more thoughtful than the English Parliament, who once solemnly enacted that a new jail should be built out of the materials of the old one, and that the prisoners should be confined in the old jail, until the new one was completed. Our Supervisors have arranged to have the prisoners confined in the City Hall.

The toboggan slide, which established itself with something of a flourish of trumpets at the head of South street, did not prove a success, and it has been moved down nearer the heart of the city, on the east side of Fort Hill, facing Elizabeth street. I fear that the project is destined to ultimate failure. Imported sports and games do not seem to take strong hold of our people. Foot-ball, cricket, both imported, stand no chance with base-ball, a native sport. Tobogganing may be fostered for a time but it will eventually give way to riding down hill on a bob. There is danger enough in that.

APRIL 9.—The office of the late Dr. Pitney which for years had stood perched upon Genesee street, in front of the Pitney homestead, was removed. It was a landmark, back of which the memory of few now living extends.

APRIL 15.—The Industrial Fair, under the auspices of the Wheeler Rifles, is inaugurated and proves a bountiful success, both in the satisfaction of the visitors, and in replenishing the treasury of the worthy organization which originated the scheme.

During the summer, the street car tracks were taken up and relaid. The long switch on Genesee street, between State and North, was put in, premonitory of a double track one of these days, when Auburn has grown enough. When that time comes, we shall have to build an elevated road for cutters and sleighs, during winters of deep snows like the present. On the 5th of December, the first car passed over the Clark street branch of the road, and on the 13th of December the belt line opened, and has been kept open regularly since. It is due to the present energetic management to say, that the service is exceptionally good. Still it is a little difficult to catch a car, unless you are very nimble, or can attract the attention of the man leaning against the hitching post, some distance down the street, who will yell at the driver and point with his thumb toward you. I chased a car nearly a quarter of a mile, the

other day, and should doubtless be chasing it yet, had it not got mixed up with a drove of cattle, which was crossing the street. I asked the driver, with all the severity I could command with the limited amount of breath which I had left, if he ever looked one side to see if any one wanted to take his car. He replied, "yes, sir," with so much honest simplicity, that I was ashamed to have asked him the question. But whatever their shortcomings in other particulars, the drivers do not strike. By the way, we had a strike on the 16th of February, of sixteen hammersmen for higher wages, at the E. D. Clapp Manufacturing Company's works. I do not remember to have heard of it after it was announced in the papers. Auburn is a poor place for strikes. It is worthy of note that the strikes throughout the country, during the year, have almost uniformly resulted disastrously to the strikers. The great strike, which began January 1, on the Reading Railroad and extended to the coal miners of the region of which the road is the outlet, promises to be the most disastrous, and to cause the most suffering of any strike which has been inaugurated. It is easy to foresee what the result is to be. Starving men may subsist for a time upon contributions of their more fortunate friends, but the contributions have a limit, while hunger has not.

I must not forget to note that, on the 25th day of June, the respected president of this society quietly packed his satchel and sailed away across the Atlantic, for a summer tour in Europe. Whither he went or what he saw, has been revealed only to his family and intimate friends. He is too modest to publish a book of his travels, but this society would enjoy an evening in Europe with him, or a half dozen as for that.

I am reminded here that the genial "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" has just given us in book form, his "Hundred Days in Europe." I was impressed with the truth that all mankind are kin, when I saw, in his book, a statement to the effect that a person of inferior intelligence, traveling through England, and

seeing at every station the big yellow posters with the name "Coleman," in big letters, would be impressed with the belief that the chief industry of the country was raising mustard, and that Mr. Coleman was the greatest man in the country. Evidently, Mr. Coleman has profited by his intercourse with American advertisers.

A person with sufficient intelligence to look at a picture, not to say read a newspaper or a magazine, would conclude that the chief industry of this country is the manufacture of *soap*. It would seem to stand unsurpassed in general utility, from blowing soap bubbles, up to civilizing the untutored savage.

I must not forget to mention that, as the long evenings of fall and winter drew on, the free reading room in Exchange street opened its hospitable doors and extended its cheerful welcome to the many who gladly avail themselves of its advantages. I hardly know how to characterize the institution. It is not a charity nor a reformatory. It doesn't advertise, and few, except its patrons, know of its existence. It doesn't pass around the hat, nor a subscription paper, and yet it pursues the even tenor of its way, costing nobody anything, so far as has been made public. It has established its right to stay, and ranks among the most worthy institutions of our city.

The Non-Partisan Society for the Political Education of Women (Limited), is a new organization of the year, which supplies a long felt want. The name is somewhat ponderous, but it is in grateful contrast with the prevailing Roman letter or initial names of so many of our organizations, as we see them in print. It is to be hoped that the ladies having this organization in charge will strenuously resist the tendency to wear the name down to the N. P. S. F. T. P. E. O. W. The objects of the society, so far as they have been made public, are pacific—study, inquiry, research as to the constitutional rights of women touching the elective franchise, and presumably to know their rights and dare maintain them. One cannot but admire the

spirit with which the society approaches the subject, so much in contrast with the action of indiscreet extremists in other localities, who are now seeking to avert the penalty which offended justice affixes to their indiscretion. Our society wisely seeks instruction, that it may not be constrained to seek clemency.

At the time my last record was in preparation, there were indefinite rumors of projects afoot, to advance the material prosperity of our city. So vague were they however, that I did not deem it essential to embody them in my record. On the evening of February 17, just nine days after my last report was made, a preliminary meeting of a few of our prominent citizens was held at the sheriff's office in the Court House, to consider the situation. After a couple of intermediate meetings, on the 9th of March by-laws were duly adopted, and the

"AUBURN BOARD OF TRADE

was declared duly organized." I write Board with a big B, in fact, I write the whole name in capitals, as representing about all the capital that the new project had to begin business with. But through the vigorous efforts of the management, the defect was soon remedied.

Mr. Cyrenus Wheeler, Jr., was made president of the new organization, and Mr. A. W. Lawton, secretary. Rooms were secured for the Board in the new banking house of the Bank of Auburn, opposite the head of State street, and the business of booming Auburn was enthusiastically begun. The mails to all parts of the country were burdened with information as to the business advantages and facilities of the city.

There are doubtless thousands of people in the United States, living today, who have taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. How many of them would be alive, had they not taken the remedy, we have no means of knowing, but we may be reasonably certain that, had they never heard of the remedy, they would not have taken it. In like manner, there are

doubtless thousands of people in the United States, who knew little or nothing of Auburn, until they received the Board of Trade circular. How many of them will take up their abode in Auburn as a result of the information thus obtained, we have no means of knowing, but we may be reasonably certain that not one of them would have come here voluntarily, had he never heard of the place. The moral is obvious,—*Advertise.*

The Board has taken hold of its work enthusiastically and vigorously. It has secured the location here of three business enterprises: the Ithaca Piano Co., the Scotch Cap Co., and the Walkley Hardware Co. manufacturers of tacks. It has interviewed a dozen or more other enterprises; has advocated a public park, a new opera house; has even sympathised with a natural gas movement. It started the movement for a great *Jahrmarkt* in the fall, but it took so long to explain what the word meant that the project fell through.

But the most important work which the Board has done is to wake up Auburn, to demonstrate that things don't do themselves, but that enterprise and push will overcome apparently insurmountable obstacles. Still, I fear that the balance for the year, so far as business success is concerned, will be upon the wrong side. One of the new industries, the Scotch Cap Co., has been compelled to suspend. The Swartout clothing store was closed early in the fall; Barber's factory was compelled to suspend operations on account of the failure of their consignees, and 200 operatives were thus thrown out of employ. Finally, to fill the cup of disaster, the First National Bank suspended payment and closed its doors on the 23d of January last. How many failures this will entail cannot at present be estimated with any degree of certainty. This is the first instance of the failure of a bank in Auburn. What occasioned the failure is not as yet definitely known, but from the fact that the cashier, Mr. Charles O'Brien, and the bookkeeper, Elmer W. Morse, silently stole across the border into Canada,

the refuge of many distinguished financiers, it is inferred that the management of the affairs of the institution were not in accordance with the most approved methods of modern financial dicker.

I am disposed to bunch my weather notes, as did the charming "White of Selborne," a century ago. The spring opened somewhat reluctantly, as is the custom of our northern springs, but on the whole favorably. Robins and bluebirds were reported as early as March 13, which is not early for them. I did not, however, see them until April 2d. I think they were frightened away, if they came, by the cold weather which prevailed during the last half of March. The first frog of spring trilled his notes April 11, a few days earlier than usual. April 15, we had our first thunder shower. May 3, the first oriole came, four days in advance of the cherry blossom, an unusual occurrence. May 13, horse-chestnuts in bloom. The usual May frost and snow-storm were omitted, whether by request or otherwise, I would not presume to say. The temperature for May was about the average; for June and July about the average, while August was below. A slight frost occurred the 25th of Sept., but nothing severe till the 14th of Oct. The first snow was on the 11th of November. On the 19th of Dec. enough snow fell to make good sleighing, which has continued without a break ever since. We are having a genuine old fashioned winter, plenty of snow with steady cold weather, but without the extreme cold which we sometimes experience.

The average temperature for January was 2° lower than that of any January for the past ten years. Thursday, January 12, the mercury stood at zero in the early morning, while the barometer stood at 30.1, the highest point noted for several years. The sky was cloudless, and the air was so crisp that it almost crackled as one breathed it. Before 12 o'clock at night, a blinding southeast snow-storm was prevailing with the wind at 60 miles per hour. In the western states and territories,

the storm became a blizzard, and the loss of life was beyond that occasioned by any storm before known. In February of last year, great destruction of cattle on the cattle ranges east of the Rockies, was occasioned by the continued storms, but the severity was not so great as this year. This storm extended as far south as Texas, where the temperature was the lowest known for years. The mercury fell to 60° below zero in Dakota. We have thus far been free from the extremes of cold to which we are sometimes subjected.

I have been greatly aided in my local observations of the weather, by the restoration of the weather vane upon the 2nd Presbyterian Church steeple to its normal integrity. It will be remembered that this vane for several years had been pointing steadily and unswervingly to the west. The warm south wind wooed it tenderly, but ineffectually, the fierce Norther blustered and threatened, all to no purpose. At morn and eve, in sunshine and shadow, in calm and storm, like the Sphinx's gaze beside the Nile, it looked only in one direction; while all else changed, the wind changed not. I fancy that this vane had become disgusted with the coquetry of the winds, and had determined to have no more to do with them. A fatal mistake which seriously impaired its usefulness. At length, the vane disappeared from its accustomed place for a time, but on the first day of November, a man ascended the dizzy height of the steeple and restored the vane to its place. The gilt exterior had given place to a soberer coat of chrome yellow, but the vane responded daintily to the slightest breath of air. It was surprising to see how many people had missed it; how many would have gladly contributed to the expense of its restoration. I can remember when no church was complete without a weather vane. I know of but two in the city at present, which have them. The prevalence of Gothic church architecture is the cause of the change. The Goth never cared which way the wind blew.

I have been a little annoyed by an occasional exhibition of a disposition on the part of my restored friend to dissent from the views of its neighbors. I found, one morning that the vane upon the church was pointing directly south, while the vane on the Y. M. C. A. building was pointing northeast. The little mediator on the building of Richardson's furniture establishment confirmed the testimony of the church vane, and the Y. M. C. A. vane fell from grace by continuing to hold northeast for ten days or more. Last Sunday morning again, the church vane pointed south, the Y. M. C. A. vane directly north and the Richardson vane southwest. So much diversity of opinion would be puzzling on any other day than Sunday.

Among the many deaths that have occurred in our community since my last report, I have noted the following:

MARCH 5.—Dr. Jonathan Griffiths, age 86 years three months, a peripatetic herb doctor, a resident of the adjoining town of Fleming, but to be seen any day trudging the streets of the city, bearing a faded and threadbare carpet bag of herbs, visiting his patients, of whom he had not a few. I suppose he would be classed as a tramp or a quack, by the regular school. In an earlier age he would have passed for an oracle, or a soothsayer, later perhaps as an alchemist, or an astrologer—but always with confiding followers. He accumulated a liberal competence by his practice.

MARCH 17.—Dr. A. R. Shank, age 52, a physician of good standing in our community.

MARCH 27.—Mrs. Sarah M. Hunt, aged 85 years, relict of Thomas M. Hunt, many years ago engaged in the drug trade, in the same store now occupied by his son. Mrs. Hunt was distinguished for her Christian character and exemplary life.

APRIL 18.—Daniel Peet died at the age of 78 years 7 months, having been a lifelong resident of Auburn.

APRIL 19.—Joseph Newbold, age 58 years 8 months, well known as baggage-master for many years, at the New York Central depot.

APRIL 23.—Mrs. ——— Calkins, relict of the late Dr. T. N. Calkins, and one of the oldest native inhabitants of the city.

APRIL 29.—Andrew W. Johnson, age 63, well known as the junior partner for many years of the firm of Terrill & Johnson.

MAY 4.—Larnard C. Mann, aged 71. It is supposed that Mr. Mann committed suicide by drowning in Cayuga lake. His body was not recovered till May 19.

MAY 6.—At the City Hospital, Major Aretas A. Sabin, aged 79, a man, who in his prime, was somewhat prominent as a politician, but in his declining years, a pensioner upon his friends, political and otherwise.

MAY 29.—Roswell Johnson, age 81, a well-to-do farmer, who had recently moved to Auburn from the town of Niles.

JUNE 2.—Samuel C. Williams, age 67, an old time printer and pressman, who had spent a lifetime of quiet usefulness in Auburn.

JUNE 19.—Mortimer L. Browne, aged 58 years 6 months, for many years the proprietor of the Young Ladies' Institute. He was a successful teacher, but did not realize an independence from his profession, in which particular he was not an exception.

JULY 2.—Rev. Malcolm N. McLaren, D. D., age 89, a retired clergyman, long resident of the city.

JULY 4.—Horace B. Fitch, age 47, the youngest son of the late Abijah Fitch.

JULY 4.—At his home in Venice, Cyrenus Wheeler, Sen., age 96 years, father of Cyrenus Wheeler, Jr., of this city.

AUG. 7.—Charles G. Briggs, age 74, for many years an esteemed and prominent business man of Auburn.

AUG. 7.—Charles T. Samson, age 74. Mr. Samson came to Auburn from Sheffield, England, about 1843, and was the first to establish the industry of file cutting in Auburn.

SEPT. 11.—Blanchard Fosgate, M. D., age 79, one of the charter members of this society.

OCT. 25.—James Tibbles, age 97, a lifelong resident of Auburn.

NOV. 6.—James D. Button, M. D., age 84, also a charter member of this society.

DEC. 12.—Hiram Tiffit, age 76, formerly a member of assembly from the southern district of Cayuga county.

1888, JAN. 24.—At Seneca Falls, Louis R. Brown, age 24, a promising young man of this city and a member of the senior class of Yale College.

JAN. 25.—At Port Byron, Archibald M. Green, aged 70 years, and upwards. Mr. Green had outlived his day and generation. A scant item with few particulars announces his death. Twenty-five years ago, he was a power politically, in this community, and his death then would have called forth a column at least of eulogy.

FEB. 4.—Charles E. Swift, M. D., age 67, the third physician who has died in our city within six months, an evidence of the impartiality of the Destroyer, and of the impotence of the healer.

FEB. 7.—Peter W. Hopkins, age 77, a lawyer by profession, a recluse in life. Born in Auburn and always residing here, outside of his immediate neighbors, he was probably known to as few as any man in Auburn. Mr. Hopkins never married. I do not know that he ever took the subject of matrimony into serious consideration. In this I think he made a mistake. I have known many excellent men who never married, but I am confident that they all made a mistake.

Of former residents who have died elsewhere, I have noted Augustus Howland, who died at Kirkville near Syracuse, March 18, age 77 years. Mr. Howland was formerly president of the Auburn City Bank, which became the ill-fated First National Bank.

At Cleveland, Ohio, March 31, Burget C. Freeman, age 57, only son of the late Luke Freeman, an emancipated slave of Col. Hardenburgh. In his younger days, Burget was a popular barber in this city.

APRIL 19.—In Brooklyn, Col. Edward B. Lansing, age 58, formerly a resident in Auburn.

MAY 4.—General Andrew J. Alexander, a retired army officer, age 53, on the cars near Utica, while on his way home to Willow Brook, the home of his father-in-law, E. T. T. Martin.

MAY 24.—At Manchester, England, George J. Letchworth, age 59, formerly of the firm of Hayden & Letchworth of this city.

And these of our country of wider renown :

1887, FEB. 24.—Benjamin F. Taylor, at Cleveland, Ohio, age 68. Mr. Taylor was a poet of no little note, distinguished for the tenderness, rather than for the brilliancy of his productions.

MARCH 8.—Henry Ward Beecher, the eminent Brooklyn divine, aged 74. He was stricken with apoplexy March 5, and did not rally therefrom. His remarkable power as a speaker and writer will be universally acknowledged. Little more could be said of him that would not provoke controversy. A just estimate of him will be made by a future generation.

MARCH 8.—At Nassau, N. P., Capt. James B. Eads, age 67. Capt. Eads built the bridge across the Mississippi at St. Louis, in 1870-74. He also deepened the channel of the south pass of the Mississippi, by building jetties or break waters, and at the time of his death was engaged in a scheme for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

MARCH 31.—John G. Saxe died at Albany, age 71. Mr. Saxe was a lawyer by profession, but more noted as a humorous poet. A generation ago he was quite popular.

APRIL 10.—At Evansville, Ind., John T. Raymond, age 51, well known as the unequalled impersonator of Col. Sellers.

APRIL 20.—Lieut. John W. Danenhower, age 37, fatally shot himself at Annapolis, Md. Lieut. Danenhower was one

of the twelve survivors of the thirty-two officers and men of the ill-fated *Jeannette*, wrecked in the Arctic ocean a few years since. He was a son-in-law of State Senator Sloan of Oswego.

MAY 12.—At Bloomfield, N. J., Rev. Samuel W. Duffield, age 40 years, formerly pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of this city, and a man of no inconsiderable literary celebrity.

MAY 29.—At Washington, Ben Perley Poore, age 67, a journalist and writer of considerable note.

JUNE 4.—Ex-Vice-Pres. William A. Wheeler, age 68. He was President Hayes' helper.

JUNE 17.—Mark Hopkins, age 85, for many years president of Williams College.

JULY 18.—At Fount Hill, Va., R. M. T. Hunter, ex-secretary of state of the southern confederacy, age 78.

JULY 20.—At Hyde Park, Mass., Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., age 64, a prolific author of wild literature, peculiarly attractive to boys fond of adventure.

SEPT. 1.—At Cambridge, Mass., Charles M. Hovey, pomologist, age 77. He was the author of Hovey's seedling, one of the choicest by-gone varieties of cultivated strawberries.

DEC. 24.—After a lingering illness, Daniel Manning, age 57. Mr. Manning was President Cleveland's first secretary of the treasury. He was purely a politician, of a higher grade than the average; without education, except as picked up in the strict school of politics, but of strict integrity and honesty of purpose and fidelity to his friends, he achieved a prominence which was eminently creditable, but at the same time fatal to him. His untrained intellect could not stand the strain of the responsibilities which his position imposed, and he died from the effects of overwork.

Dr. Asa Gray, Professor of Botany at Harvard University, and well known as an author of botanical text-books.

Of foreign notarieties I have made record of the following only :

FEB. 28.—At Rome, Italy, Cardinal Jacobini, age 55, pontifical secretary of state to Pope Leo XIII.

JULY 14.—At Essen, Germany, Alfred Krupp, age 75, the famous maker of artillery known as the "Krupp Gun."

OCT. 31.—At Shortlands, England, Dinah Maria Mulock Craik, age 61. Mrs. Craik was an authoress of some distinction, most widely known by her novel, "John Halifax, Gentleman."

NOV. 2.—At Malvern, England, Jennie Lind Goldschmidt, the "Swedish Nightingale," aged 67 years 8 months. It is nearly thirty-seven years since she visited Auburn and sang in the 2nd Presbyterian Church. My recollection is that tickets with reserved seats were \$5 each and difficult to get at that.

1888, FEB. 2.—At Rome, Italy, Mary Howitt, age 84. I can scarcely realize that she has not been dead at least a score of years but it seems not. Mary was a poetess of some note, being the author of the familiar poem entitled "The Spider and the Fly." She had lived in Rome the latter years of her life, had become a devout catholic, and during the last year was given audience with his holiness, Leo XIII.

The year has been noted for the number and extent of its disasters and accidents, a few only of which I may stop to note :

On the 23rd of February an earthquake extended over Southern Europe, causing the loss of from 1,200 to 1,500 lives.

MAY 3.—An earthquake visited Arizona and New Mexico, causing a loss of 150 lives.

In May, 500 pearl fishermen were lost by hurricanes in the Indian Ocean. The overflow of the Yellow river in China, late in October, flooded a thickly populated district, 7,000 square miles in extent, with unknown destruction of life.

In Southern Asia and Europe, cholera has raged with terrible fatality.

MAY 25.—The Opera Comique was burned in Paris, and upwards of a hundred people perished in the flames.

SEPT. 5.—The Theater Royal, at Exeter, England, was burned and 140 victims perished.

MARCH 14.—A train on the Boston & Providence Railroad went through a bridge at Roslindale, near Boston, and thirty passengers were killed and 100 injured.

MARCH 18.—The Richmond Hotel, in Buffalo, was burned and ten of the inmates perished.

AUG. 10.—An excursion train went through a bridge near Chatsworth, Ill., and seventy-six passengers were killed and 279 wounded.

1888, JAN. 10.—A railroad accident at Haverhill, Mass., caused by spreading of the rails, resulted in the death of eight passengers, besides whom several were wounded.

The list of disasters by sea, and by land, if minutely presented, would fill pages of my record, but I have not the time to recount them, nor you the patience to listen.

If I were to mention any special feature of general prevalence throughout the year, I should say it was an earnest effort to induce people to get rich. I have been so puzzled as to which was the surest road to wealth that I still linger at the parting of the ways. One seems certain of success in the manufacturing districts of Alabama. If one could be content with doubling or trebling his money, Kansas City, or Omaha would seem to meet his wants. But what shall we say of Southern California, where one not only secures the most delightful climate in the world, but his investments increase in value so rapidly that he can scarcely keep pace with them? Still I hesitate, for rumors come at times that a kite string has broken, and an investment has sunk from sight.

And here, my dear doctor, my wearisome record must end. In preparing it, I have been perplexed to determine what to embody and what to omit. Much that is unimportant has crept in, much that would have been interesting has been crowded out.

As I recur to the date of this record, I find that today is St. Valentine's day. The morning opened bright with a balmy wind from the south which sent the mercury exultantly up to 48°, the highest point it has reached within the last sixty-five days. The streets show little rivulets of discolored water, busily picking their way to disconsolate pools, or the more fortunate to a sewer opening that is not closed. I notice that the sparrows are house hunting today, peering into the hollows of decayed limbs and the crevices of projecting gables and cornices, and all the time chattering progress to an interested listening mate. I am gratified to know that the straw, with which this graceless intruder would construct its nest, is still buried under at least a foot and a half of solid snow. It reconciles me to the cloud that obscures the sun, to the veering of the wind to the west, to the downward trend of the mercury, to the consciousness that the winter is not yet ripe. I confess that years of association have increased, rather than diminished, my dislike of the sparrow. As my joy in looking forward to the coming of the robin and the bluebird, the finch and the wren, is tempered by the consciousness that the sparrow will enjoy the springtime as much as my native friends, and will appropriate much of it that belongs to them, I am tempted to wish that the sparrows might be compelled to dig through the snowbanks for the material for their nests. But I am rebuked by the question nearly twenty centuries old, "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing?"—and I am silent.

And so my record ends.

Very truly yours,

B. B. SNOW,

Historiographer.

RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

AUBURN, N. Y., May 14, 1889.

My Dear Doctor Schliemann :

My tardy record for the year has grown up spindling and hueless in the shadow of many cares. This is no fault of events but rather of your correspondent. Occurrences, which in their time seem trivial, may subsequently become important, but they soon slip from the memory if they are not at once pinned down by a memorandum, which one is not at all times prepared to make. I not unfrequently find myself groping in vain after some forgotten incident, which my cotemporaries will wonder that I have not noted for your information ; and so, I fear that the characteristic of my record will be its omission, rather than its presentation of facts.

I resume my narrative where last year's record left it, in the genial social gathering of the society at the home of our President, on the 14th of February, 1888.

Adhering to the custom which I have unconsciously adopted, I shall glance briefly at the important events which have taken place in the world at large, before addressing myself to strictly local history.

ENGLAND.

Our nearest neighbor across the water, and our national ancestor of a century ago, has been pursuing the even tenor of her way, with only the trials incident to the management of so large a family. A slight unpleasantness between the royal families of England and Germany, arising from a disagreement of doctors as to how the hopeless affliction of the Emperor Frederick should be permitted to terminate his life, came to the surface for

a brief time, but they have a way of shutting off unpleasant gossip concerning royalty in the old world, more effective than anything we have yet discovered.

The controversy over Home Rule for Ireland has apparently made little progress, and the enforcement of the Crimes Act has kept the Emerald Isle in a state of continual turmoil. The commission of the House of Commons to investigate the charges of the *London Times* against Mr. Parnell, resulted in the complete vindication of the Irish leader, and a crushing defeat for the *Times*. The pretended informer, who furnished the letters upon which the charges were based, confessed the forgery of the Parnell letters, fled to Spain, and ended his career by suicide.

During the summer and fall, London was greatly exercised over the mysterious and brutal Whitechapel murders. Nine dissolute women were in quick succession murdered and horribly mutilated, and no efforts on the part of the police authorities availed to detect the perpetrator of the crime. Sir Charles Warren, chief of the London police, was forced to resign his position, Nov. 12th, on account of the clamor against the efficiency of the force.

The relations between England and our own country were unpleasantly interrupted, during our presidential campaign, by the "Sackville Incident," and for six months past, no minister from her majesty has represented her at our national capitol. Minister Phelps also retired from the Court of St. James, early in the year, so that the two nations have since been nominally without official relations. The coming of Sir Julian Pauncefote as successor to Lord Sackville, and the appointment of Mr. Robert Lincoln to the Court of St. James, give promise of a speedy restoration of the *ante bellum* serenity.

The English nobility still continue to show their preferences for available American brides. On the 15th of November, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, who the year previous visited this country as one of the commissioners to formulate a treaty as to the

Canadian fishery complication, wedded Miss Marie Endicott, daughter of Secretary Endicott, of the War Department. This is better than the average catch of the American belles, as Mr. Chamberlain is neither a bankrupt nor a libertine.

The English sporting world is still restless over the fact that an American yacht holds the champion cup, which for nearly forty years English yachts have striven in vain to wrest from us, and Lord Dunraven has sent a challenge to sail his new yacht, *Valkyrie*, the coming fall, to contest for the cup. It is needless to add that the challenge has been accepted, but the yacht which is to defend the cup against the Norse competitor, has not been named. There is a weird and ominous ring to this name "*Valkyrie*," and our amateur tars must not rely upon artificial wind to retain the cup.

Among the minor events of the year, of interest to Americans, is the close of the career of the steamship, *Great Eastern*, which in former years was an occasional visitor to our shores. In August last, she was beached in the Mersey, preparatory to being broken up. Her life was a failure, except the brief portion of it devoted to laying submarine cables. She was too slow for this age, and ends her career with none to lament, except possibly her stockholders. She was built about forty years ago.

Among the distinguished sons whom England has been called to mourn, I note the following :

Matthew Arnold, the noted poet, scholar and critic, died April 16, 1888, at the age of 65. He was the eldest son of the famous Dr. Arnold of Rugby.

On the 12th of September, Richard A. Proctor, the popular lecturer on astronomy, died in New York, of yellow fever, contracted in Florida, at the age of 51. He was, at the time, on his way to his home in England.

On the 27th of March last, the great English orator, John Bright, died at the age of 77. For the past fifty years he had

been one of the most prominent and influential actors in English political history.

FRANCE.

Across the channel, France has been engaged in preparation for her third World's Exposition, which opened in Paris on the 6th instant. The centennial celebration of the meeting of the states general in 1789, was held at Versailles on Sunday, May 5, one day of the week later than the original meeting, doubtless in deference to the passion of the French people to do big things on Sundays.

Not the least interesting feature of the Exposition is the completion and opening of the great Eiffel Tower, in the Champs de Mars, near the river Seine. This wonderful tower is the highest structure in the world. It is 984 feet in height, being over five times as high as the First Church spire. A Yankee would have kept on up to an even thousand feet, but as the French use the metric system, they stopped at 300 metres. The tower, which is composed wholly of iron and steel, rests upon four pillars at the corners of a square 328 feet on each side, or about the distance from the corner of the Dunning store to the middle of South street. Visitors may climb up by an outside winding stairway or be carried up in an elevator, but are not admitted to the summit, which is reserved for scientists.

While France has been preparing to celebrate the birth of the First Republic, General Boulanger, a member of the chamber of deputies, is charged with scheming to subvert the existing Third Republic. He was impeached, fled to Belgium, was requested to leave, and late in April, took refuge in London.

The great Panama Canal scheme of M. De Lesseps, in which all France had invested, collapsed during the early winter, and awaits more venturesome capital to continue the work.

Marshal Francois Achille Bazaine, of the German Invasion fame died September 24, 1888, at the age of 77, an exile from

his native land, in the city of Madrid, Spain. In 1873, he was tried and convicted of treason for the surrender of Metz, and was sentenced to death, the sentence being commuted by the president to banishment for twenty years.

On the 9th of April, 1889, Michel Eugene Chevereul died, in Paris, aged nearly 103 years. He was a noted chemist, and directed his talent mainly to the practical application of the science. He was the inventor of the stearine candle, and aided largely in the discoveries of the practical uses of glycerine. He was for sixty-two years a member of the institute of France.

GERMANY.

Germany has witnessed a year of national bereavement, unequalled in the annals of any other nation. Within a little more than three months, she has been under the rule of three different emperors, grandfather, son, and grandson.

On the 9th of March, 1888, Emperor William I died, at the advanced age of 91. He was the great-great-nephew of Frederick the Great of the House of Brandenburg in Prussia. He became king of Prussia in 1861. In 1866, in the "Seven Weeks' War," he wrested the North German States from Austrian control and established the German Empire. In 1870, he completely conquered and humiliated France, and was proclaimed Emperor of Germany, Jan. 18, 1871, in the hall of Louis XIV, in the palace of Versailles. Upon his death, he was succeeded by his son, Frederick William Nicholas Charles, under the royal title of Frederick III. Frederick was at the time at the portal of death, suffering from cancer of the throat. He reigned three months and six days and died on the 15th of June. His son, Frederick William Victor Albert, succeeded him under the title of William II. In all these changes Germany's great prime minister, Bismarck, has quietly guided the ship of state, the power behind the throne more potent than royalty itself.

The peaceful relations between Germany and our own country have been slightly imperiled by complications arising as to the protectorate of the Samoan Islands, a group of thirteen small islands worth about ten shillings, lying in the southern Pacific.

The terrible hurricane, of which I shall speak further on, went far towards settling the complication by settling the entire fleets of both nations then at Samoa, beneath the mad waters of the worthless bay of Apia. On the 29th of April, a commission of arbitration met at Berlin, at which were representatives from our own country, England and Germany, which differences they will doubtless amicably adjust.

Of the other European nations, the little kingdom of Servia seems to have been most troubled by dissension. King Milan secured a divorce from his Russian wife, Natalie, on the 24th of October and abdicated his throne on the 6th of March, 1889, in favor of his twelve-year-old son who comes to the throne under a regency, as Alexander I. Milan has since undertaken a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and the latest report is that he has become a monk.

Austria has suffered the loss of her Prince Imperial, Rudolf Francis Charles Josef, who came to his death January 30th, 1889, at the age of thirty, whether by his own hand or by the hand of an assassin, it is difficult to determine from the conflicting reports as to his taking off. He would seem to have been killed at least once for each of his names, and from the variety, the royal family were pleased to select suicide as least objectionable and secured a special dispensation from the pope for his burial in consecrated ground—consideration unknown.

Pope Leo XIII continues to bewail the loss of his temporal possessions in Rome, of which he was shorn by Victor Emanuel, and pleads earnestly for the faithful to reinstate him in his sovereign capacity. But no hand is raised, not even the palsied hand of Spain, which, in its palmy days, rejoiced to be the acknowledged champion of the Roman church, both in its defen-

sive and in its aggressive policies. The nineteenth century is an unfavorable era in which to renew or re-establish and continue a polity which wore out centuries ago.

The flea on the elephant is the nihilist in Russia. What a perfect nightmare must be the life of the sovereign of this semi-barbarous realm! No sooner does the Czar escape from the ruins of a wrecked royal express train than a plot is unearthed to blow his royal individuality into smithereens, by means of some newly fashioned infernal machine! I would rather run a buzz saw than be Czar of Russia. Still the Czar Nicholas seems to view the situation differently, and plans to keep what he has and get what he can. Russia has recently suffered a severe loss in the death of General Count Peter Schouvaloff, who shoved off this mortal coil, at St. Petersburg, March 22nd, 1889, at the age of 61. Count Schouvaloff was distinguished not simply as a military leader, but as a diplomat of marked shrewdness and ability, and an executive officer of rare merit.

On the 7th of May instant, Count Demetrius Tolstoi, Russia's Minister of the Interior, died. He should not be confounded with Count Tolstoi, the well known Russian author.

The infant empire of the far east has taken an important step towards placing herself in the ranks of civilized nations. In February last Japan promulgated her first constitution, based substantially upon the model of Prussia's charter, which is to become operative in October, 1890. We beat Japan in this particular by nearly a hundred years, although the Japanese Empire was founded upwards of twenty-four hundred years ago.

The great South American Empire, Brazil, abolished slavery throughout her dominions on the 13th of May, 1888, being the last of the civilized nations of the globe to relieve herself of this curse. How narrowly and by what a terrible ordeal our own land escaped this distinction!

Our old friend, Stanley, is advertised to lecture the coming season under the auspices of the indefatigable Major Pond.

Stanley has been advertising liberally in Central Africa for the past two years and will undoubtedly draw well. He has been variously reported as a prisoner of the Mahdi, as killed in various ways, and generally used up. As a relief expedition he was not a great success. Letters reached England on the first of April, detailing his march through the impenetrable forests and jungles of the upper Nile region, with the loss of two-thirds of his men, and when he reached the camp of Emin Bay, on the Albert Nyanza, in May, 1888, he was about as sorry a relief expedition as one could well imagine. There is room for suspicion that his expedition was as much for purposes of exploration as for the relief of Emin. The latest reports bring the intelligence that he is piloting the Pacha and his colony, several thousand in number, in their exodus from the heart of Africa to the eastern coast of Zanzibar.

Of other reports from the Dark Continent, not the least important is that of the death of Emperor John II, of Abyssinia, who was killed in battle on the 12th of March last. John claimed, with some show of probability, to be a lineal descendant of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, and was therefore of the oldest royal house in the world.

It is reported that, on the 29th of February, 1888, the sarcophagus containing the remains of Alexander the Great was discovered at Sidor in Persia. Alexander died at Babylon, 2,211 years ago, and it is quite interesting to renew acquaintance with so distinguished a skeleton, after so long an absence. It is also reported that the grave of Miles Standish has been discovered down in Massachusetts, but the old Puritan seems to have been crowded out in some way, and the skeleton that occupies his quarters is that of a female. Let us hope that such has not been the fate of him who wept because there were no more worlds to conquer.

Our neighbors across the border have continued to assert their fishery claims, in which they have been seconded by the

Home Government, and the questions at issue are still unsettled. On the 15th of February, 1888, a treaty upon the subject was agreed upon and signed by representatives of the British crown and of our own government, but our senate failed to confirm it.

The Canadian parliament has lately been somewhat exercised over a government appropriation to the Jesuits, and no little rancor has been expressed in debate. The question of annexation has been broached and somewhat seriously discussed on both sides of the border, but we don't want Canada. We are corpulent enough now. Besides, we don't want the mass of ignorant and bigoted peasantry and the cold sterile lands of the Province of Quebec, even with the advantage of securing the North Pole for our national flag staff. Much more gratifying is the recent action of the Canadian Parliament, by which future defaulting cashiers and like offenders will no longer find a city of refuge within the borders of the Dominion. Canada was getting to be too much of a Botany Bay.

The little republic of Hayti has been rent by dissension, and a revolution of considerable magnitude for so small a republic, has been for some months in progress. On the 14th of August, President Solomon fled from the island, and since then war has been in progress between the contending factions.

One of the belligerents seized the steamship, Haytien Republic, which was sailing under American colors, upon the pretense that she was carrying goods contraband of war, which was probably true. Two of our war vessels were dispatched at once to Port au Prince. The officers went ashore, took a square meal and something to drink with the authorities, secured the release of the seized vessel and \$350,000 indemnity, and returned home without the loss of a man, except those who died of yellow fever. Whereupon the American eagle winked his left eye at the sun, and screamed a wild pean of triumph.

Our own land has been the theater of much commotion and incident. The year of a presidential canvass is always lively,

and a canvass with eight different presidential candidates in the field, does not lack for material to make it warm. The Prohibitionists were early in the field, nominating Clinton B. Fisk as their candidate, on the 31st of May. They were anticipated by the Equal Rights Convention, which nominated Belva A. Lockwood, on the 23d. On the 6th of June, the Democrats renominated President Cleveland, and on the 25th of June, the Republicans nominated Benjamin Harrison. On the 15th of August, the American party nominated James Langdon Curtis, and three additional candidates were put in nomination by labor and other organizations. The distinctive feature of the canvass was the display of the "Red Bandana," in which both of the prominent parties indulged. The canvass ran along with customary zeal and smoothness till the 24th of October, when the Sackville letter was made public. The British minister, Lord Sackville West, was drawn into indiscreetly advising one of his countrymen, who had written him in apparent good faith as to how he should vote, to cast his ballot for President Cleveland. This was a bonanza for the opposition, and the most was made of the asserted foreign interference with the sacred American franchise. Lord Sackville was requested by President Cleveland to pack his gripsack and discontinue his official functions at the court of him whose cause he had indiscreetly espoused, and he indignantly complied with the request.

Mr. Harrison was elected. The electoral college of this state upon its meeting, January 14, honored itself and this society, by selecting our president for its presiding officer.

President Harrison was duly inaugurated on the 4th of March, and Ex-President Cleveland immediately took up his residence in New York city to engage in the practice of law. Preparatory to resuming hard work, Mr. Cleveland went on a junketing excursion with some of his political intimates to the island of Cuba, leaving Frankie at home to get the house settled, and recuperate from the exactions of public life.

President Harrison made up his political household, presumably to the satisfaction of himself, if not in all cases in accordance with the wishes of his political supporters. Occasionally a slip, as when he invited Mr. Eugene Schuyler to a subordinate seat in the cabinet, and then unceremoniously drew the chair from under him. And again when he nominated Mr. Murat Halsted as minister to the court of Berlin, and the senate stood upon its dignity and refused to confirm the nomination of one who had mercilessly criticised some of its members. The office of president is not without its trials.

Not a little uneasiness has existed throughout the land, in the various departments of labor, manifesting itself in frequent risings against employers. When my last record closed, a strike of the employes of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad system was impending. It culminated on the 27th of February, 1888, when 2,500 skilled workmen threw up their positions. For many reasons it was one of the most notable and significant strikes in the history of labor troubles. It attacked a system which was operating nearly 5,000 miles of road. The laborers were chiefly identified with the organization known as the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, theretofore one of the most prudent and conservative of the labor organizations. It was a bitter contest and involved the humiliation of the road or the disruption of the Engineers' Union. It lasted nearly a year, and ended in a costly victory for the road. The annual statement of the company shows a loss in net earnings of upwards of \$7,000,000. The loss in wages to the strikers must reach nearly \$3,000,000. The strike was finally declared off, January 4, 1889.

On the 7th of October, 1888, a strike of the street-car employes of Chicago was inaugurated, which lasted eight days, and was attended with serious riots.

On the 30th of January, 1889, a general strike of the street-car employes of New York and Brooklyn was begun, which

ended on the 5th of February. In February, a general strike of the weavers of Fall River, Mass., took place, and after a few days' continuance ended with no advantage gained by the strikers. Not disheartened by the ill-success of strikes in the larger cities, the street-car employes of Minneapolis, St. Paul and of our neighboring city of Rochester, have lately been trying their hand at it, but the contagion has not yet reached the street-car employes of our own city. On the whole, it is safe to say that labor has gained little or nothing by the strikes of the year, if it has not actually been a loser thereby. It is worthy of note that we hear of comparatively few strikes in the Southern States. Is it because the foreign element is not so predominant there, or is it because there are so few laborers? Perhaps both, but I am inclined to regard the principal of strikes as un-American, and certainly the worst features of them are prompted by an alien element.

DISASTERS, &c.

The year has been noted for the number and magnitude of terrible disasters. On the 19th of February, 1888, the town of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, was demolished by a tornado, and thirty-five persons were killed outright.

On the 12th of March, 1888, New York city and eastern New England, were visited by the worst blizzard known in history. Forty-nine and a half inches of snow fell in New York, and the streets were impassable for several days. Many vessels with their crews were lost along the coast.

On the 11th of August, yellow fever broke out in Jacksonville, Florida, and raged with great virulence until late in the fall.

On the 14th of August, the two ocean steamers, Thingvalla and Geiser, collided off Nova Scotia, by which 100 lives were lost.

On the 21st of August, a cyclone swept over Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia and Louisiana, killing thirty persons and destroying \$4,000,000 of property.

On the 10th of October, two excursion trains collided at Mud Run, Pa., killing sixty persons.

On the 9th of November, forty lives were lost by a fire in Rochester, N. Y.

On the 23rd of December, the steamer Kate Adams, was burned near Commerce, Miss., and thirty-five lives were lost, and on the day following the steamer John H. Hanna was burned near Plaquemine, La., by which thirty lives were lost.

On Christmas day, the city of Marblehead, Mass., was completely destroyed by fire.

On the 9th of January, a fearful tornado swept down through Pittsburg and Reading, Pa., demolishing substantial buildings, and causing much loss of life and property. A branch of the storm swept off to the northeast, destroying the Suspension Bridge nearest to Niagara Falls, and carrying destruction in its course through the Canadian province.

On the 2nd of February, a \$3,000,000 fire visited Buffalo.

On the 18th of February, the Park Central Hotel at Hartford, Conn., was demolished by the bursting of a steam-heating boiler in the basement, and sixteen of the inmates of the hotel were killed.

On the 16th of March, one of the most terrible disasters in maritime history occurred in the harbor of Apia in the Samoan Islands. The harbor was visited by one of the terrific hurricanes which traverse the Pacific during the spring months, and every vessel in the harbor with a single exception, was either sunk or beached. The English steamer Calliope, with great difficulty steamed out of the harbor, and rode out the storm in the open sea. The American men-of-war Trenton and Vandalia, were utterly wrecked, with a loss of fifty lives, while the Nipsic was beached and badly damaged, but has since been got afloat.

The German fleet suffered a similar fate, two of their vessels being wrecked, with the loss of a hundred lives, while the third was beached, but was afterwards floated with little damage. The recital of the bravery of the officers and crews of the doomed vessels surpasses the most thrilling romance. When the British steamer, *Calliope*, was slowly gnawing her way through the angry billows to the open sea, as she passed the struggling and doomed *Trenton*, the sailors of the *Trenton*, with death staring them in the face, gave the British flag and the triumphant crew of the *Calliope*, a rousing cheer of encouragement, which a London paper characterizes as "pluckier and more human than any cry ever raised upon the deck of a victorious line-of-battle ship."

And when later the *Trenton*, helplessly driven to her doom, swept by the sunken *Vandalia* and cheered the few brave men of the *Vandalia*'s crew clinging to the rigging, who sent back a mournful cheer in response, the band of the *Trenton* sent forth above the roar of the waves and the howling of the tempest, the cheering notes of the *Star Spangled Banner* as the noble old ship sank to her last resting place. Nor was the bravery confined to the civilized races who struggled against the relentless devastation. From their entrenchments upon the hillside, the barbarous Maoris came down to the rescue of the struggling sailors, helpless in the seething billows. At the risk of their own lives, they boldly defied danger by rushing into the sur- and rescuing friend and foe alike, with indiscriminating heroism. Poor, simple-hearted savages, they fairly won from Christendom, in that terrible ordeal, the right to be let alone!

On the 4th of April, 1888, the steamship, *Danmark*, from Copenhagen, with some 730 passengers and crew, broke her shaft in mid-ocean and was at the mercy of the waves. Happily the new steamship, *Missouri*, came to her rescue and landed her entire list of passengers and crew at the Bermudas. The terrible suspense as to the fate of those on board, was not relieved

until the arrival of the Missouri at Philadelphia on the 22nd of April.

On the 28th of April one of those terrible holocausts, which at intervals result from railroad accidents, occurred at Hamilton, Canada. A train jumped the track and was wrecked and burned, with the loss of twenty lives, eighteen of the victims being burned beyond recognition. They were chiefly western excursionists on their way to the New York centennial.

DOMESTIC EVENTS.

On the 26th of March, 1888, the International Council of Women commenced its session in Washington. The meeting has a local interest, from the fact that the original Woman's Rights Convention was held at Seneca Falls, July 19 and 20, 1848. The contrast between the two gatherings shows the progress which the movement has made. In the first convention, John Mott, a Quaker, but none the less a man, presided. At the Washington gathering, Miss Susan B. Anthony, "in a gown of lustrous black satin and a soft red shawl about her shoulders," presided, "never looking more radiantly happy nor feeling more pardonably proud." At the first convention, the record names among those present, Lucy Stone, Antoinette Brown Blackwell, Lucretia Mott, Martha Wright. What a contrast in euphony with the names of those at the later convention! As we read the proceedings, with what measured cadence do the names drop trippingly from the tongue! Lillie Devereaux Blake, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Louisa Reed Stowell, Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson, Matilda Joslyn Gage, Caroline Gilkey Rogers, Mrs. Ashton Wentworth Dilke, Bessie Starr Keeler, Laura Curtis Bullard— one's ears fairly tingle with these musical combinations. The meeting was characterized by the harmony of its councils and by the absence of any incendiary tendencies.

I may here add that the Women's Non-Partisan Society for Political Education and Constitutional Inquiry, of our city, has

witnessed a year of quiet progress and well-earned success. They visited Weedsport, and took tea with a branch of the organization established there, and again at Port Byron, and I believe a return match at tea-drinking with Weedsport, was held in this city. The society has made material progress by securing an amendment to the local school law, by which women are entitled to vote at school elections, which gives the society great prestige among its associates.

On the 30th of September, Hadji Hussein Ghooly Khan, the first Persian minister to the United States arrived in New York. I noticed that President Cleveland was reported to have been somewhat disconcerted, when the minister presented his credentials to the imperial authority of our realm, getting down upon all fours and pressing his forehead upon the floor in true oriental fashion. The books of court etiquette were silent as to the proper course of procedure in such cases, and the President was in doubt, whether to stand on his head or turn a back summer-sault in response.

On the 27th of October the National Base-Ball season ended, with the championship pennant in the keeping of the New York nine. During the winter, two crack nines, the Chicago and All America, made an exhibition tour of the national game, around the world, playing in the presence of the potentates and nobility of the old world with great acceptance.

It is singular what a hold this sport has secured with the American public. Imported games like cricket, foot-ball, tennis and the like have a limited following, but the American game of base-ball has no competitor. Auburn indulged in the game to a limited extent last season and secured the championship of a local league. This year the fever has set in with renewed fervor, and Auburn is to have a professional nine of no little pretension.

On the 8th of October, Melville W. Fuller of Chicago, was duly installed Chief Justice of the United States Court, in place of Morrison R. Waite, deceased.

The new year was ushered in by a total eclipse of the sun, not visible in Auburn. Several parties of astronomers made pilgrimages to California, and are generally enthusiastic over the results of their observations.

On the 22nd of February, President Cleveland signed the bill providing for the admission of four new states into the Union, Washington, Montana, North, and South Dakota. They are to hold conventions on the fourth of July next, adopt the constitution, when they will be formally admitted, and our Union will be increased to forty-two states.

In the latter part of February, a steamer sailed from New York with a band of pilgrims destined to Rome and the Holy Land. They were chiefly adherents of the Roman Church, and it is the first pilgrimage of the kind from this country. Though they did not set out barefooted and staff in hand, they were perhaps as devout as the enthusiasts of the middle ages.

On the 16th of March, the authorities of New York city, commenced cutting down the telegraph and telephone poles in the streets, to get rid of the net work of electric wires, which have long been an unmitigated nuisance.

On the 22nd of April, the new territory of Oklahoma was opened to settlers. The wild rush of boomers across the border at 12 o'clock, was unprecedented in the history of civilization. As was to be expected, vast multitudes of the emigrants were soon as anxious to get out, as they had been wild to get into the promised land.

On the 30th of April, New York city celebrated the Centennial Anniversary of the first inauguration of Washington. The celebration commenced on the 29th of April and continued three days. It was probably the largest gathering of people on any similar occasion, if not on any occasion, in the world's history. This society was represented by its president and corresponding secretary, who are enthusiastic over the courteous reception accorded to them. Auburn indulged in an impromptu

celebration of no mean proportions, on the 30th. The day was ushered in and out, by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannon. Services befitting the occasion were held in several of the churches, and a parade, such as Auburn rarely witnesses, took place in the evening. Decorations of red, white and blue abounded everywhere, and for the first time the national colors floated from the flag staff of the new Government Building. A centennial ball was given in the evening, at which no jealousies existed, for everybody was in the Four Hundred who danced the Cotillion of Honor. It was a day, when everybody was happy, patriotic, and proud to be an American citizen, whether native or by adoption.

On the first of January, the law providing for capital executions by means of electricity, instead of by hanging, became operative in this state, and the gallows is a thing of the past. I notice also, the invention of a machine, for throwing dynamite bombs from a rapidly revolving wheel, by which it is claimed that a bomb can be thrown with absolute precision, a distance of five miles. Such appliances are valuable to lessen the expense of building forts for the defence of our harbors, and will subserve a temporary purpose. But when we get further along, we shall station a man upon some headland with a battery under his arm, who will rain thunderbolts into the magazine of an iron-clad, hull down at sea. There is money in the pocket of the man who perfects such a method of coast defence.

I must not forget to mention the popular craze of the "Pigs in Clover." This is not an invention, it is an inspiration, a kind of divine afflatus; the highest manifestation of poetic instinct. It might have been christened "Hogs in the Potato Patch," "Steers in the Corn," or "Hens in the Melon Patch," with equal propriety, as a model of the perversity of animal nature, but it would have lacked the poetic combination which has secured for it such unprecedented favor with all appreciative minds. Assuming that there are twelve million families in

our land, at least ten million of them will supply themselves with this irresistible household gem. Assuming further a profit of five cents for each put-out, a fortune of \$500,000 stares the inventor of the happy thought in the face. He takes rank with the great benefactors of the age—the inventors of the wire-spring clothespin, the friction match, the gimlet pointed screw, and the fountain pen.

In addition to the distinguished foreigners whom I have hereinbefore noted as having died, I may add the Sultan of Zanzibar, who died March 27, 1888, at the age of 53, and Duke Maximalian of Bavaria, who died at Munich, at the age of 80, which is old for a Duke.

I also notice that the King of Anam died the latter part of January. I mention the fact simply for the reason that one of my late records notes his accession to the throne, some two or three years ago.

The papers announce the death, a few days since, of Father Damien, a Jesuit Priest, at the age of 49, on the Island of Molokai, one of the Sandwich Island group. His career was so unusual in the present age, that I need not apologize for briefly sketching it. In 1865, the Hawaiian government established a colony of lepers on the sandy peninsula of Kalawao, a tongue of land three miles long and one mile wide, extending into the Pacific from the Island of Molokai. All the lepers throughout the kingdom were forced to take up their residence in this cheerless abode. For eight years they lived here in utter destitution, with scarcely the necessities of life, uncared for, lawless and depraved. In May, 1873, Father Damien voluntarily exiled himself, by entering upon a mission with this doomed band of unfortunates. He was then 33 years of age, a man of marked ability and of unusual promise. For eleven years he labored zealously and unceasingly for the physical and spiritual welfare of the unclean flock, to whose welfare he had devoted his life. There were then 816 lepers in the colony, all in the

most degraded and helpless condition. Father Damien became to them as he writes, "physician of soul and body, magistrate, school teacher, carpenter, joiner, painter, gardener, housekeeper, cook, and of undertaker and grave-digger." In 1886, Father Conrady of Oregon joined him, and shortly after seven sisters of the Franciscan Order came as nurses—two of them, Sisters Cyrilla and Irene, from our neighboring city of Syracuse. Five years ago, the dread disease attacked Father Damien, and after a lingering illness he died. It is consoling to know that the loss of a valuable life, voluntarily consecrated to this loathsome mission, was not sacrificed in vain. His devotion aided greatly in alleviating the sufferings of his afflicted flock, and the leprous horde of barbarians was converted into a Christian community. Such self-sacrificing devotion surpasses heroism and partakes of the Divine nature.

Of the more distinguished persons in our land who have died during the year, I have noted the following:

1888, FEB. 15.—David Ross Locke, aged 64, more familiarly known as Petroleum V. Nasby. No humorist of our time attained the merited celebrity which the Nasby letters secured for Mr. Locke. The first of these letters appeared March 12, 1861, and its subject was the secession of South Carolina. From that time until Mr. Locke's death, these good-natured satires upon public men and measures appeared at frequent intervals, and an estimate of the importance attached to them may be gathered from the fact, that President Lincoln offered Mr. Locke any position he might name, but he declined the offer. President Grant also made him a direct tender of the mission to St. Petersburg or to Berlin, which he also declined. Governor Boutwell, in a speech at Cooper Union, said that the crushing out of the Rebellion could be credited to three forces—"The Army, the Navy, and the Nasby Letters." At one time in his career, Mr. Locke became quite addicted to the drinking habit, but abandoned it, and became a warm advocate of temperance

for the remainder of his life. His brother, John A. Locke, was made Deputy County Clerk of Cayuga county in 1859, but died shortly after of consumption, the same disease which closed the career of the distinguished satirist.

FEB. 17.—Alfred Smith Barnes, aged 71, the head of the widely known publishing house of A. S. Barnes & Co., and of local interest as one of the promoters of the Midland Railroad scheme, in our county.

FEB. 24.—William W. Corcoran, the millionaire patron of arts and of public and private charities, of the city of Washington, aged 89.

MARCH 4.—A. Bronson Alcott died in Boston, at the age of 88 years, 3 months. He was a mild and inoffensive crank of the Concord School of Philosophers, of which he was one of the founders. He left a diary of fifty-seven large bound volumes, chiefly ante-dating and largely exceeding in quantity the present series of Schliemann letters. He was the father of Louisa M. Alcott.

MARCH 6.—Miss Louisa M. Alcott died in Boston, at the age of 55. She was an authoress of some note, her most popular production being "Little Women." She had not been informed of the death of her father, who was buried on the day she died.

MARCH 12.—Henry Bergh aged 65, died in New York. He was distinguished as the founder of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in New York, which was instituted in 1865.

MARCH 23.—Chief Justice Morrison R. Waite, of the United States Court, died at the age of 71.

MARCH 24.—John T. Hoffman, Ex-Governor of New York, died at the age of 60.

APRIL 5.—Jacob Sharp, of Broadway railroad fame, died at the age of 70.

APRIL 18.—Roscoe Conkling, Ex-United States Senator, died at the age of 58—a stormy career ended by the great blizzard of March 12.

APRIL 18.—Dr. Cornelius R. Agnew, of New York, aged 57, a physician and surgeon of national fame.

MAY 6.—Rev. Dr. Laurens P. Hickok, aged 89, formerly, from 1844 to 1852, a professor in the Theological Seminary of this city.

JUNE 6.—Thomas McElrath, aged 81, the first publisher of the *New York Tribune*, and well known for his long association with Horace Greeley.

JUNE 8.—Rev. Dr. James Freeman Clark, aged 78, a distinguished Unitarian clergyman of Boston.

JULY 19.—Rev. E. P. Roe, a prolific writer of commonplace, but popular fiction, died at the age of 50.

AUGUST 5.—General Philip H. Sheridan, aged 57, a distinguished cavalry leader during the late war of the Rebellion. He was succeeded in command of the army by Major-General John M. Schofield.

AUGUST 20.—Seth Green, the celebrated fish propagator, aged 71.

SEPT. 6.—John Lester Wallack, aged 68, a widely known and popular actor of New York.

SEPT. 21.—William Warren, aged 76, the famous comedian of the Boston Museum.

OCT. 15.—John Wentworth, Ex-Mayor of Chicago, aged 78, famous as "Long John Wentworth."

Nov. 15.—David Hotstetter, aged 58, the millionaire author of Hotstetter's Bitters, a gentle stimulant which admitted of even a Prohibitionist partaking of a square drink, without breaking his pledge.

Nov. 18.—Dr. Henry B. Sands of New York, aged 58, one of President Garfield's attending physicians, in his last hours.

Nov. 21.—Oliver Ditson, aged 77, the widely known publisher of music, in which calling he amassed a vast fortune.

1889, MARCH 8.—John Ericsson, aged 86, the inventor of the stern-wheel propeller, which revolutionized steam naviga-

tion, and of the iron-clad, turreted Monitor, which revolutionized naval warfare.

MARCH 22.—Stanley Matthews, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States died, aged 64 years, 8 months.

APRIL 27.—Dr. F. A. P. Barnard aged 80, for sixty years an educator, and for the past twenty-five years, president of Columbia College, New York.

MAY 9.—At Orlando, Fla., General William Selby Harney, aged 89, of Mexican war fame, the oldest officer of the United States army.

The oldest Freemason in the United States has died so many times during the year, that I was obliged to give up in despair making "a record of him." He is as numerous as the oldest postmaster, or the first man to enlist in the war of the Rebellion.

LOCAL NECROLOGY.

I have noted the death of residents, more or less familiarly known in our community, as follows :

1888, FEB. 26.—Joseph Bennett, aged 84, long a resident of Auburn, a quiet, unassuming citizen, warmly interested in politics, of Republican proclivities, and fond of laying small wagers upon the success of his favorite candidate.

FEB. 29.—Stephen C. Hoyt, aged 65, a much respected business man of our community.

MARCH 11.—Richard Steel, aged 92 years, and 4 months. A man of rare probity, and identified with the business interests of Auburn for three-quarters of a century.

MARCH 16.—Deborah Bronson, aged 78, one of the most sprightly, good-natured, and universally esteemed ladies of her day, in our city. She was a native of Auburn, and passed the whole of her cheerful life in our community.

MARCH 22.—Charles Rattigan, aged 68 years, 4 months, an

adopted citizen, native of Ireland ; a man of rare worth, and most respected by those who knew him best.

MARCH 26.—George D. Lanehart, aged 42, an unfortunate victim of the terrible scourge of intemperance. Whole-souled, generous to a fault, his untimely death was widely mourned.

APRIL 6.—Mary Caton Hurd, aged 84, one of the early residents of Auburn.

Lewis Paine, aged 79 years, 6 months, son of Lyman Paine, one of the pioneers of Auburn.

APRIL 24.—Dr. Lansingh Briggs, aged 81 years, 4 months, for more than half a century one of the prominent physicians of our city. Kind and gentle of disposition, he carried the soothing sunshine of his face to many a gloomy bedside of sickness.

JUNE 17.—Mrs. Caroline B. Osborne, wife of Mr. Gorton W. Allen, died, aged 48 years.

JUNE 20.—In New York, James H. Bostwick, aged 81, for many years a prominent citizen of Auburn, but latterly a resident of the metropolis.

JULY 12.—Mrs. Charlotte C. Bates, aged 56, widow of the late Dr. Bates. She was prominently identified with the benevolent enterprises of our city.

AUG. 6.—Samuel R. Rathbun, aged 77, for many years connected with the Auburn Woolen Company.

AUG. 21.—William H. Bogart, of Aurora, aged 78, a prominent journalist in his day.

SEPT. 3.—Dr. T. S. Brinkerhoff, aged 56, a successful medical practitioner in our community.

SEPT. 4.—Jacob H. Harter, aged 68, "Pastor of the Church of the Divine Fragments," as he was pleased to style himself, an erratic man, noted for the number of irregular hymeneal services at which he officiated.

SEPT. 18.—Andrew Race, aged 67, by his own act, hanging himself, a genial good-natured man ; the last whom one would suspect of suicide.

SEPT. 22.—Robert Jenkins died at the advanced age of 94. He was for many years employed as an officer at the State Prison.

SEPT. 24.—Benjamin Gould of Aurora, aged 85, a prominent and well-to-do farmer of the town of Ledyard, and father-in-law of our late postmaster, Col. E. D. Woodruff.

OCT. 12.—Anna M., wife of Charles Standart, died at the age of 77.

OCT. 25.—Phineas S. Hadger, aged 48, for many years a respected business man of our city.

DEC. 6.—Abner J. Sanders, aged 55, late sheriff of the county.

DEC. 7.—Daniel B. Keyes, aged 58 years, 8 months, many years engaged in the calling of printer.

DEC. 13.—William C. Clark, aged 69, for many years a prominent mason and builder.

DEC. 14.—David Wetherby, aged 69, long engaged in the millinery business, a quiet, unobtrusive man, but highly respected for his moral worth.

DEC. 18.—G. Howard Burt, aged 33, a descendant in the third generation of Dr. Burt, one of Auburn's pioneers.

1889, JAN. 5.—Mrs. Lillian F. O'Brien, aged 37, for many years an invalid, and latterly suffering a bereavement which was especially sad.

JAN. 10.—Eber O. Wheeler, aged 49, a highly respected member of the legal profession.

FEB. 8.—Mrs. Azuba C. Hunt, aged 78, in New York, where she had for many years resided. Her maiden name was Terry, and a few years since she contributed a paper to this society, giving her early experiences in Auburn.

FEB. 25.—Harry J. Sunter, aged 39, an artist of unusual merit.

MARCH 11.—Phebe A. Burtis, aged 76, wife of Mr. Cary S. Burtis.

APRIL 17.—Mrs. Prudence McKinney, aged 95, the oldest native resident of the city.

* APRIL 17.—C. S. Hutchins, aged 58, the first to introduce the photo-copying industry into Auburn.

MAY 10.—Major E. D. Parker died at the age of 62.

LOCAL EVENTS.

Auburn has been undergoing a year of subdued prosperity, and still not without incident. Our Board of Trade, under the discreet management of its president, Joseph A. Cook, and its secretary, Byron C. Smith, has made less noise, if not so many mistakes, as its predecessor. It is to be regretted that two of the industries secured by the former management have not proved successful; the Scotch Cap Factory and the Tack Factory being obliged to succumb for lack of remunerative patronage. The board of the past year has been diligent in watching for enterprises that were seeking a place to light. It pursued vigorously that Will-o'-the-Wisp, the Masonic Home, until the playful illusion eluded further pursuit by taking refuge in a morass near Utica. The board has been re-organized for the coming year with Young America at the helm; Mr. Frank W. Richardson as president, and Mr. William P. Allen as secretary, and gives promise of accomplishing much for the material prosperity of the city.

The business outlook of the city, which was slightly obscured by the recent failure of the First National Bank at the time my last report was presented, was again clouded by the suspension of the house of Dunning & Co., one of the most extensive wholesale dealers in hardware and iron in Central New York, and the closing of its doors by the sheriff on the 9th of March, 1888. And when on the 1st of April, 1888, the street-cars went into liquidation and fell back to the old twenty-minute interval between trips, it really seemed as if Auburn was getting tired. But the depression was temporary only. During the summer months, navigation of the Owasco lake was put upon

a permanent footing by the establishment of two lines of steamships, the Moravia from Cascade and the Lady of the Lake from Ensenore, which made daily trips, when the wind did not blow too hard, from their respective ports to Port Townsend. This has given such an impetus to lake navigation, that a Yacht Club has been organized for the coming season; the project of a light house at the end of the pier is agitated; the island has been purchased and is to be fitted up for a Merry-Go-Round-Park; Auburn is to be connected by rail with the foot of navigation; a Base-Ball Club has been organized. Barbers' Factory is soon to resume work; the street-cars, since the first of April, have been running fifteen-minute trips, and last, but not least, the Common Council has just accepted the munificent donation of Mr. Charles Standart, of the tract of land twenty-one and a half acres in extent, known as Standart's woods for a city park. Nor should I neglect to mention the gallant capture of the Ithaca, Auburn & Western Railroad from the Lehigh Valley management, early in January, by Col. Peet, thus opening up a vista of commercial intercourse for Auburn which is cheering to the beholder. Then our new jail, not remarkable for its imposing architecture, has been completed, and was occupied by our criminal household in February, and the new government building has been developing its fair, but somewhat contracted proportions, with commendable rapidity. The Aurelius avenue bridge controversy received a seeming quietus, when the referee decided it substantially in favor of the city, on the 15th of June last, and the Common Council, on the 7th of January, 1889, voted the necessary \$6,600 to pay the claimants. But the phantom still haunts us, in the shape of a new action between the claimants, for an equitable distribution of the avails. A slight cloud overshadows us in the suit instituted by a Mr. Hayden, who resides some five miles down the Owasco outlet, against the city for polluting and poisoning the waters of the outlet, to

wit, by contaminating said outlet with offensive sewage, thereby creating malarial vapors and noisome odors, whereby the said Hayden has been greatly damnified, to wit, as to the hygienic integrity of his household. I see, however, that the action is, for the present, hung up, to await the event of a similar action pending against the city of Rochester.

It is time to dismiss generalities to make room for the detail of local events.

On the 18th of February, 1888, the Kurtz-Corning elopement afforded opportunity for the display of bizarre head lines in the local papers. The incident has no further place in my record.

On the 22d of February, a mass meeting of the depositors of the defunct First National Bank was held, at which the prevailing sentiment was manifest, that the depositors should be paid the full amount of their respective deposits, or as near the full amount as might be convenient; in accordance with which sentiment, the receiver has paid, in divers installments, sums amounting to 45 per cent. of the claims.

On the 27th of February, Mr. John H. Osborne's residence on South street was badly damaged by fire, but was saved from total destruction by the active interposition of the Fire Department. Mr. Henry Carpenter's barn on Elizabeth street, was less fortunate when attacked by fire on the 11th of March.

The Second Separate Company N. G., our favorite Wheeler Rifles, have performed valiant service during the year. They indulged in a well conducted fair at their armory, during the week of April 18, 1888. They enlivened our Fourth of July parade, and on the 7th of August set out for the State Encampment at Peekskill, for a week's military picnic. They drilled a good deal during the year, and at the great military parade in the New York Centennial, kept up the reputation of Auburn, by winning the praise of being the crack company in the line.

During the week of May 29, the State Sportsman's Conven-

tion met with us, and wasted an immense quantity of ammunition on clay pigeons, enough in fact to have exterminated the entire race of English sparrows in our city, to which purpose I wish they had devoted it.

On the 5th of June, our beautiful new High School building was dedicated, on which occasion addresses were made by Mr. Thomas M. Osborne, president of the Board of Education and by the Hon. Andrew D. White.

JULY 4.—Auburn celebrated the anniversary of our National Independence by an imposing parade and by a grand display of fire-works in the evening. An ambitious rocket took fire before it was placed in position, and seriously injured Mrs. Robert Wylie.

On the 9th of August, Wells College at Aurora, Mrs. President Cleveland's Alma Mater, was destroyed by fire.

SEPT. 3—Was a legal holiday, known as "Labor Day" throughout the state; the first of its kind, and not distinguishable in Auburn from any ordinary working day of the week.

On the 4th of September, the corner-stone of the new government building was laid with elaborate masonic ceremonies, and a poem by Mr. Albert L. Childs.

On the 9th of September, Mr. Patrick Flynn was unsuccessfully shot in a street broil near the corner of State and Dill streets.

Nov. 1.—Rev. Dr. John Brainard celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his rectorship of St. Peter's Church, receiving on the occasion the congratulations of the host of friends in all classes of community, which his quarter century of acceptable and worthy service had won for him.

Nov. 15.—A bronze statue of William H. Seward was unveiled in the Seward Park, in the presence of a vast concourse of people, who assembled in spite of the drizzling rain which prevailed. Hon. William M. Evarts, delivered the oration on the occasion.

During the late fall and early winter, an episode in the literary experience of Auburn was occasioned by the publication of a weekly paper, named after the city, under the management of Mr. Wm. P. Allen. Its career was limited to fourteen numbers. It was purely literary, reformatory, and progressive in its aims, and sought the best talent for its contributors. The "Tax-Payer," "A Subscriber," "Justice," "One Who Was There," did not revel in its columns. It was spicy, sprightly, unique, *sui generis*—such a paper as only its projector could produce. It made warm friends of all its acquaintances. Had it survived the ordeal of teething, its long life was assured. But "whom the gods love die young," so did *Auburn*. The constant gnawing at the pecuniary vitals of the proprietor induced him to adopt the heroic treatment, and the readers of *Auburn* saw its obituary with sincere regret.

The destruction that wasteth a noonday settled down upon Auburn, on the first of February. The Goddess of Industry, in holiday attire, sauntered aimlessly through our streets; the God of Traffic, nervously smoking his own cigars, stood at the portal of his warehouse, and in subdued tones spoke words of comfort in the hearing of the moody Goddess. Capital shrank hurriedly into its stronghold, and Want, rousing from her lethargy, clad herself for an impending mission. Men said that public opinion sympathized with the capricious Goddess in her escapade, but when the presumed mouth-piece of the sentiment of community is neither the leader nor the exponent of public opinion, it is hardly just to base one's judgment upon the expressions of a limited number of interested parties. I am loath to believe that sober public opinion, either among laborers or their discreet friends, countenances strikes. The principal is un-American and contrary to the immutable laws which have governed the relations of labor and capital ever since the mandate went forth, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." A temporary advantage may be secured

occasionally by one side or the other, but in the end the pendulum must swing within prescribed limits or the wheels will cease their functions. However, it was in the main a peaceably conducted strike. On the 31st of January, a little pimple of a strike developed at the foundry of Woodcock & Co., which had no ostensible connection with any grievance outside that shop. On the first of February, the moulders in the malleable works of the D. M. Osborne Co., struck for an advance in wages. Soon all the moulders in the employ of the company went out, and on the 9th of February, the wood-working and machine shops were obliged to shut down for lack of castings. The company secured a few moulders from time to time from abroad, but the Union persuaded many of them to join the strike, after a short employment. The company made arrangements to have their castings made abroad, but happily the differences were adjusted on the 19th of February, and the men resumed work. I am not well enough informed as to the alleged causes which led to the strike to express an opinion as to its justice, but there should be unusual provocation to warrant a rising against a company that has been so liberal to its employes as has the D. M. Osborne Co.

During the months of February and March, the tall poles of the overland Telephone Company were set in our streets, and the net-work of wires strung upon them. The dizzy heights at which the men worked, made one shudder for their safety and sigh for a race of men of the Miocene age, with tails by which they might dangle as they plied their trade.

The line was opened to the public on the 17th of April, and one can now talk with New York, Boston and other distant cities, as easily, but not so cheaply, as with his neighbor across the road.

On the 7th of February, quite an extensive fire for Auburn, destroyed the three stores on Genesee street, occupied by Keyes for a book store, Simpson the grocer, and Pearson & Rogers, crockery.

On the 10th of March, Joseph Bessel fatally shot himself and wife, and later a mania for suicide seemed to prevail, the particulars of which I omit.

On the first of April, ('89,) the little Ann Cray Hermitage in Exchange street, and the brick parsonage on South street, were demolished to make room for the extension of the cabinet warehouse of G. W. Richardson & Son.

On the 30th of April, Mr. Seward's Free Reading Room and Library, for working men, in Exchange street, closed for the season. The librarian, Mr. James Hamilton, reports the most successful season since this praiseworthy institution was established.

May 3, was "Arbor Day," throughout the state, the first of its kind. It was not celebrated by the public schools of the city for the reason that it occurred during the spring recess of the schools. I hear of a neighboring village in which the school children indulged in an elaborate programme, but planted no tree, because the trustees did not want any trees planted in the school yard,—a play of Hamlet with Hamlet left out.

On the 7th of May, work was commenced upon the Boulevard which is to connect Swift street with the foot of the lake.

MAY 8.—The W. N. P. S. F. P. E. A. C. I. celebrated the first anniversary of the victory of the society, under the leadership of Major Savery, in securing the right of women to vote at school elections. The celebration was initiated by a "five o'clock tea," or "come and leave your work," at the Grand Union Hotel in William street. Miss Lillie Devereaux Blake was the star of the occasion. A contingent from Weedsport was present. The approaching school election was the absorbing topic of conversation. It ranked in interest the excellence of Landlord Pierce's tea. The reporter does not state that such was the fact, but it would have been eminently proper to have a dress rehearsal of the *modus operandi* of casting the ballot, and also to determine whether the ballots should be printed

on pink or blue paper to guard against desertion. Fears have been entertained that an attempt will be made to colonize the First District on the day of election with the Weedsport contingent, but such suspicions are groundless.

Miss Lillie Devereaux Blake pronounced the oration of the occasion in the evening, at Association Hall. She discussed in an eloquent, mistressly manner, the question "Is it a crime to be a woman?" Strangely enough the published reports do not intimate which side of the question the fair oratress espoused.

On the 11th of May, Mr. James D. Fish, the distinguished guest of his no less distinguished host, Copper John, paid his bill and took leave of his quarters. He had served nearly four years of a ten years' sentence which was commuted by President Cleveland, in January last, so that his term regularly expired on Sunday the 12th. He left with a clean record of deportment during his stay.

I regret that the length of my report does not admit of my tarrying to give more of the detail of the weather for the past year. The temperature for 1888 was upwards of 3° below the average, as I have kept it, for the past twelve years. A characteristic of the winter and spring of this year, has been the prevalence of easterly winds and accompanying fogs, unusual here. The cool summer of 1888 was succeeded by an open fall, with a week's sleighing preceding the holidays, a "green Christmas," a warm open January, a snug February with continuous sleighing, a mild, dry March, a warm, dry April, and a May setting in with unusual fervor, which inclines one to don summer vesture. "Ne'er cast the cloak till May is o't," runs a Scotch proverb, which it may be well to heed. I notice that a recent order of the weather bureau provides for long range predictions in future, and a forecast of the weather in various localities some days in advance, which will be acceptable, if reliable.

Once more, my dear doctor, my wearisome record draws to its close. I find that I have omitted to make mention of the for-

tunes of the toboggan slide, which stands untenanted, grand, gloomy and peculiar, with sphinx-like stare upon Elizabeth street, and of the Salvation Army whose clarion war notes resounded through the streets but a few evenings since, but time forbids my further trespassing upon your indulgence.

I find upon consulting the record that this is the twelfth anniversary of the opening of our correspondence. On the 8th of May, 1877, I presented my first record to the society, in the hearing of a small but select audience in this room, of fourteen members of the society and three visitors. Our esteemed President presided on the occasion in the absence of the President, Dr. Hawley. Our treasurer, secretary and historical secretary are the only other members of the society present this evening who were present on that occasion. The years between have witnessed the death of three other members then with us, Drs. Briggs, Button and Fosgate and one of the visitors, Mr. E. G. Storke.

With renewed assurances of my distinguished consideration, I remain

Very truly yours,

B. B. SNOW,

Historiographer.

RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

AUBURN, N. Y., May 13, 1890.

My Dear Dr. Schliemann :

The year which has passed, since I prepared my last report for you, has been an eventful one. True, the events have not been of that magnitude, of which immense blocks of history are made, but they are of importance as indicating that history is still in the process of evolution.

I come to the task of preparing the present record with no little reluctance. The Historical Society, to whose keeping these records have been confided, has determined to print and distribute them to its members, and to sister societies which have been the recipients of its former publications. The semi-publicity which will thus be given to them, is the source of much misgiving as to the favor with which they will be received. Prepared in the intervals of scant leisure, of which bread-winning cares were jealous, they have been submitted, from time to time, at the society's meetings, rather as a diversion than for any merit in the line of historical work. The pleasantries, which have been kindly received by the few indulgent friends who have listened to them, will have little to commend them to the unsympathetic stranger, ignorant of the circumstances which gave them birth. There is a mite of consolation in the thought that a multiplication of copies will increase the chances of the record coming to your hand, and, in that event, that the aid of the printer will lessen your labor in deciphering it. Beyond this, if here and there the date of an incident may be found in these pages, which otherwise

might have eluded the search of the inquirer, the record will not be utterly valueless, even before it may come to your hands.

Another year has proved an era of undisturbed peace throughout the civilized world. The most important hostile engagement occurred on the 3d of August, when the Anglo-Egyptian army, under General Grenfell, defeated the Der-vishes, near Toski, on the upper Nile, inflicting a loss of 1,500 killed and wounded, and taking 1,000 prisoners. Some slight skirmishes with African tribes have occurred, and a temporary disturbance on the island of Crete, but with these exceptions, peace has reigned. The nations of the old world, ever jealous of one another, have dozed the year away in watchful quiet. Meantime the potentates, availing themselves of the peaceful mood of the nations, have been exchanging courtesies, by friendly visits or formal calls, which augur well for the continuance of the existing peaceful relations. About the middle of May, Nasr-ed-Deen, the jolly old Shah of Persia, paid his respects to his neighbor, the Czar Alexander, by whom he was royally entertained. On the 11th of June, he called upon the young Emperor William, at Berlin, and on the 30th, he brought up in London. It is hinted that he here effected a loan sufficient to enable him to do the Paris Exposition, pay his passage home, and have a surplus left to inaugurate some needed reforms, upon his return to the land of the Fire Worshipers. King Humbert, also, left his peninsular realm for a friendly call upon the German Emperor, at Berlin, on the 21st of May. On the 1st of August, Emperor William honored his grandma, Victoria, with a call, which, from the slightly strained relations heretofore existing, may be presumed to have been somewhat ceremonious. However, William commissioned his grandmother as Colonel of one of his crack regiments, which, if it adds nothing to Victoria's income, will extend her already voluminous titles, and will give her a military standing, such

as women are honored with nowhere outside of Dahomey. On the 11th of October, the Czar of all the Russias ran down to Berlin, presumably for the reason that he had something to say to Billy that he didn't care to put upon paper. He had a long chat with the chancellor, after which he and the Emperor went a hunting and bagged many deer, much as if our gun club were to sally out into a neighboring farmer's sheep pasture, and return with a dozen spring lambs.

On the 27th of October, Emperor William and wife went down to Athens, to attend the nuptials of his sister, the Princess Sophie, and Constantine, Duke of Sparta and Crown Prince of Greece. Among the notables present, were King Christian of Denmark and his spouse, the Prince of Wales and family, and many lesser lights of European nobility. On their way home, the Emperor and wife ran over to Turkey to call upon the Sultan and his wives, arriving at Constantinople, Nov. 2d. They were banqueted in oriental style, and after sight-seeing and shopping until the 6th, departed for home.

Not less notable, in its way, has been our contribution of visiting celebrities. The Hon. William F. Cody, if not the lion, was at least the buffalo of London, during the exhibition of his Wild West show in the metropolis. Even the door-keeper of his show was a coveted guest at the dinners of nobility. Subsequently, at the Paris Exposition, the cow-boy of the plains was the center of attraction, and still later at the anniversary of Leo's 80th birthday, on the 2nd of March, and the twelfth anniversary of his coronation as Pope, the dusky sons of our western prairies mingled with papal dignitaries, cowboys with cardinals, big Indian with archbishop, in a pageant which Rome in her palmiest days might well have envied.

The great and only Barnum captured London and all England with the "Greatest Show on Earth," which was patronized by the nobility and by even the royal family, excepting Her Majesty the Queen. Alas, that royal etiquette precludes the

sovereign from going to Barnum's Circus! One would think it no impropriety for her majesty to take a couple of the grandchildren to see the animals, even if she had conscientious scruples about the circus part of the show. On the 8th of November, the great showman was enthusiastically banqueted in London, and this spring returns to his native land in a blaze of glory, to give to his countrymen, the benefit of his "Great Moral Show." Nor must I neglect to mention our "Squadron of Evolution," which has been evolving in the Mediterranean for the past three or four months, whereby the officers have had a jolly junket, the marines are kept busy, and the prestige of our navy is enhanced in the eyes of Europe as well as in our own.

The most notable feature of the year in Great Britain, as well as in several other European countries, has been the prevalence of strikes among laborers. In the early days of June, 3,000 dock laborers struck in Glasgow, and at the same time the Belfast shipping interest was paralyzed by a general strike. On the 21st of August, 30,000 striking dock laborers marched through the streets of London. The contagion spread to Liverpool, and her docks were idle. Other trades united with the dockmen, and at one time 250,000 workmen were idle in London alone. A compromise was eventually effected and labor was resumed, but the quiet is of doubtful duration. In Belgium, Germany, and Austria, strikes have been of frequent occurrence and of threatening proportions.

France has had a year of comparative quiet. The Paris Exposition was a mammoth success, despite the lack of sympathy and patronage of the crowned heads of Europe. It is said that twenty-five million tickets were used and paid for, besides the dead-head tickets. Fifty thousand Americans are said to have visited the Exposition. An episode in the fortune of the Republic occurred on the 7th of February last, which for a time threatened serious complications. The young Duke of

Orleans, son of the Count of Paris, and grandson of Louis Phillippe, made his appearance in Paris, in violation of the exile law, which banished him and his family from the realm. He was arrested and pleaded that he came to France to enter the army as a private soldier and serve the usual term of three years, as all loyal French youth are expected to do. This pretense was regarded as lacking the requisite consistency, and the duke was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for his boyish prank. Later developments disclose the fact, that a plot had been formed to restore the monarchy in France, and place the young duke upon the re-established throne.

Of the other nations of Europe, Portugal has lost her mild King Luis, and Spain came near losing her infant embryonic sovereign, the three-year-old King Alfonso XIII. It is worthy of note, that a strong and growing sentiment in favor of a Republican form of government exists in both these peninsular realms.

The important event in Germany has been the retirement of the great Chancellor Bismarck, which occurred on the 17th of March last. He had been Chancellor of the German Empire since January 19, 1871, and prior to that was Minister of Foreign Affairs of Prussia, from September 23d, 1862. For more than a quarter of a century he has been the power behind the throne that controlled the destinies of Europe. Mightier than monarchs, he shaped the policy which made Germany an empire, and placed her in the rank of the great nations of the globe. It is understood that a difference of opinion between himself and the young emperor, as to the policy to be pursued in dealing with the socialist element in Germany, was the cause of the rupture.

Little need be said of the other nations of the Old World. The mysterious death of the Austrian Crown Prince, Rudolph, last year, has proved a sad blow to Francis Joseph, who mourns the loss of his only son, as one not to be comforted. He has

designated the eldest son of his eldest brother Archduke Charles, as heir apparent to the crowns of Austria and Hungary. I neglected to mention that Joseph ran over to Berlin, and spent a week with William, during the latter part of the summer.

Russia has had her usual complement of nihilist plots. The reports of the cruelties inflicted upon political prisoners in Siberia which seem to be well authenticated, have shocked the civilized world. The severe criticisms which have been made thereon by the journals of this country, have resulted in an order, lately issued, prohibiting the circulation in Russia of all the prominent New York papers except the *Herald*.

The King of Dahomey has lately been making war upon the French, in Western Africa. His sable majesty has an army numbering some 15,000, the flower of the army consisting of about 3,000 female warriors. This fact should put to blush the old fogies of civilized communities, who are constantly sneering at the efforts of women to attain their sphere, in the management of public affairs.

Our long lost Stanley has once more emerged from the Dark Continent, with reluctantly rescued Emin in his train. On the 13th of June last, a letter from him, was received at Zanzibar, dated December 31, 1888, announcing his arrival on the south-east shore of the Victoria Nyanza. Rumors and conflicting reports continued to be received from him until late in the fall, when definite advices announced his proximity to the eastern coast of Africa, with the remnant of his own relief party, and a small body of refugees from Emin's Province. He reached Zanzibar on the 5th of December, and, after a brief rest, came up to Cairo in Egypt, where he tarried to write his book. Having completed that, in the latter part of April, he journeyed to Brussels, where he was the honored guest of his patron, the King of Belgium. Thence he journeyed to London, where he arrived on the 26th of April and still remains.

Meantime, Emin, who came near losing his life shortly after his arrival, by a fall from a twenty-foot balcony, at Bagamoyo, having recovered from his injuries, has accepted a commission from the German government, and is preparing to set forth to recover his Equatorial Province, presumably in the interest of the German Empire.

On this side of the sea, another Republic has been added to the roll of self-governing peoples. On the 15th of November last, General Fonesca, chief of the Provisional Government of Brazil, rapped at the door of the Imperial Palace, and politely informed his Imperial Majesty, Dom Pedro, that his services were no longer needed to guide the destinies of the Brazilian people. The Emperor was not disposed to argue the question, but at once set to work packing up his household goods, and two days later set sail with his family for Portugal. A modern writer, more distinguished for humor than for statesmanship, is authority for the statement, "That if history proves anything it proves this; that all revolutions that will succeed must *begin* in blood."

It is within the recollection of many who would resent the charge of being aged, that when the physician was called to the bedside of the sick, his first performance was to bleed the patient to the verge of fainting, then, if sufficient vitality remained to encourage a hope of recovery, to dose the exhausted sufferer with drugs, or torture him in various ways with blisters, leeches, cupping, etc., whereby, if the rebellion of the disease was not put down, the patient was mercifully relieved by death. A more intelligent and humane method of treating disease has been substituted for the practice of a generation ago, and blood-letting and kindred barbarities, except in extreme cases, are no longer resorted to. It is barely possible that, in the light of the broader intelligence of the last decade of the nineteenth century, the practice of phlebotomy upon the body politic may come to be regarded as a relic of barbarism, and that

the milder remedy of arbitration will prove equally efficient and far less exhausting.

One can hardly conceive it possible, however, that a monarchical form of government could be so quietly and speedily transformed, and in an earlier age it could not have been accomplished without bloodshed. But the trend of sentiment in Brazil has been for a long time towards a free government, and the liberal policy of the late Emperor has rather encouraged the growth of the sentiment.

The new Republic is known as the United States of Brazil, and it is rapidly bringing itself into line with sister Republics. The union of church and state has been abolished, and by a late enactment religious teaching in the schools is prohibited.

The only monarchy now remaining upon the western hemisphere is the little realm of King Kalakaua, on the Sandwich Islands, and even his throne trembles upon its foundations. On the 30th of July last, an insurrection of somewhat formidable proportions was developed, which was quelled by the standing army, efficiently aided by a base-ball pitcher, who delivered hand grenades into the ranks of the insurgents with such precision and effect, that the revolution came to a sudden end, and the safety of the throne was firmly established. This achievement should secure royal recognition for our national game, and raise the representative at least, to the position of Minister of War.

The troubles of the Republic of Hayti came to a crisis in the latter part of August, when General Hippolyte occupied Port au Prince, and Legitime fled to France. On the 17th of October, Hippolyte was elected president of the restored Republic.

Perhaps the most important event in the year's history of our own country, has been the admission of four new states to the Union. Elections were held in each on the first day of October, and constitutions adopted. They were officially declared sovereign states of the Union by presidential proclama-

tion, in the following order: North Dakota and South Dakota, November 1st, Montana, November 8th, and Washington, November 11th. And still others of our territories are knocking for admission, not without probability of success. On the 27th of March, the house voted to admit Wyoming to stateship by a vote of 139 to 127, and on the 3rd of April, an act was passed by the house, admitting Idaho.

The meeting of the Pan-American Congress in Washington, on the 2nd of October, was an event of no ordinary importance in the history of the New World. The congress was made up of representatives from eighteen of the different countries of North and South America. Unfortunately, King Kalakaua failed to appoint a representative, until just on the eve of the adjournment of the congress, so the monarchical element had little weight in the deliberations. The visiting delegates were shown over the eastern, northern and western sections of our country, and then settled down to work, our Secretary of State, Mr. Blaine, having been selected as president. The congress labored studiously until the 19th of April, at 12 m., when it adjourned *sine die*. While the action of the congress was simply advisory, it will be of importance in future international intercourse, especially the recommendation of the congress in regard to arbitration, where changes in national domain are involved.

The Hon. John R. G. Pitkin of Louisiana, was appointed a delegate to this congress, but resigned to accept the position of minister to the Argentine Republic, to which he was appointed August 3d. I mention the fact for the reason that Mr. Pitkin's name has a local interest. When President Lincoln made his last call for volunteers to suppress the rebellion, in the fall of 1864, the first recruit who offered for enlistment in this district was a slender, nervous, young man, apparently less than thirty years of age, who signed his name to the enlistment papers with an easy grace, not common to the recruits at

that stage of the war. He was credited to the quota of one of the southern towns of Seneca county—the town of Ovid if I remember correctly—and received the town bounty of \$300 only, when substitutes were commanding from \$1,000 to \$2,000 each. He exhibited a commission as captain of cavalry in the Union Army, but stated that he preferred to enter the army as a private. His story was, that he belonged in New Orleans, had been impressed into the Rebel Army, had made his escape and came north to fight for the Union. He was forwarded to Elmira, where he was detailed as a clerk in the office of the assistant provost marshal general, in which position he remained until the close of the war, in April, 1865. His name was John R. G. Pitkin, and he was doubtless the same man who now represents our government at the capital of the Argentine Republic.

On the 16th of October, an international Marine Congress opened in Washington, at which the chief maritime nations of Europe were represented, differing in that particular from the Pan-American Congress, in which the nations of the Old World were not invited to take part.

One of the most important criminal trials in our country's history took place in Chicago, during the late summer and fall. Dr. Cronin was murdered in that city, May 6, 1889, and on the 22nd of that month his body was discovered by chance in a catch basin of one of the street sewers. The suspected murderers were brought to trial, and after seven weeks' effort, a jury was secured, October 20. The trial lasted till the 16th of December, when the jury compromised upon a verdict of murder against three of the prisoners, who were sentenced to imprisonment for life. Another was given three years' imprisonment, and the other accused was acquitted.

On the 10th of November, the centennial of the Roman Catholic Church in America was celebrated in the Cathedral at Baltimore, and on the 13th of November, the Divinity College

of the new Roman Catholic University in Washington was formally dedicated.

On Thursday, the 14th of November, at 9 o'clock, P. M., the first Transcontinental Mail Train left New York and arrived in San Francisco, Tuesday, November 19, at 9:45 A. M., making the unprecedented time of 108 hours, 45 minutes, or four days, 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours, the fastest time ever made across the continent.

This feat was eclipsed, however, by Nelly Bly, (not by mail,) who left New York November 11, 1889, to make the tour of the world in an easterly course. She completed the circuit, and reached New York, January 25, having put a girdle around the globe in 72 days, 6 hours, 11 minutes, a few seconds and some microscopic fractions of a second. Nellie was sent on her trip by the *New York World*, and is famous. I hear that she is lecturing now, doubtless upon the comprehensive theme of what she *didn't* see. Nine hours after Nellie started, a Miss Bisland set out in the opposite direction, with an intent similar to Nellie's, except, of course, that she was to beat Nellie's time. I suspect that her idea was to gain a day by taking the westerly route, on account of the difference in longitude, but she failed to take into account the fact that her speed would be retarded by traveling against the sun, and by struggling against the motion of the earth in its daily rotation, both of which forces would be in Nellie's favor. Miss Bisland required 78 days for her journey, reaching New York, on her return, January 30, showing a difference of between five and six days in favor of the down-hill route, in a journey of some 30,000 miles. Miss Bisland went out under the auspices of the *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, and is not famous, because she did not win the belt. She is not lecturing.

Of the topics of general interest, which have claimed public attention during the year, I should not neglect to mention the wide-spread discussion of a proposition to revise the creed of

the Presbyterian Church, and the changes in the Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church, but I deem it prudent to dismiss the subject without detailed comment.

The contest between the cities of New York, Washington, Chicago and St. Louis, during the fall and early winter, to secure the location of the proposed World's Fair for 1892, excited no little interest. From the outset the prize seemed destined for either New York or Chicago, with the chances largely in favor of the former city. But while New York was wrangling over a site, and a non-partisan commission to control the fair, Chicago was quietly but industriously securing votes, and when the question came up for decision in congress, Chicago easily secured the prize as against all competitors. While New Yorkers are naturally chagrined at the success of a rival city, I suspect that, under the surface of sentiment, there is a pleasing sense of relief that the white elephant has gone west.

An important extradition treaty with Great Britain was ratified by the senate, on the 18th of February, by which some ten offences were added to the extraditable list. This renders Canada an unsafe retreat for defaulters and bribers.

An unusual episode in the financial world, has been the investment of an immense amount of alleged English syndicate capital in beer breweries, throughout the country. It is possible that at the prices paid, some of the funds thus invested, may not return to the owners with as much rotundity as they came.

In the field of labor, there has been a degree of restlessness, but without the marked instances of forcible rebellion against existing conditions, that have characterized some years in the past. The most noticeable features have been the action of the building trades, which have inaugurated a concerted movement for less hours' work with no diminution of pay. Chicago, as might be expected, takes the lead, with a general strike of

her carpenters, which, on the 22nd of April, culminated in a somewhat serious riot. Similar movements, but without the rioting element, have been made in other large cities, both east and west. The first of May was the day fixed upon among laborers, both in this country and in Europe, for a concerted movement to establish eight hours as the limit of a day's labor. The day was looked forward to by the authorities, particularly of the Old World, as a critical occasion, for which extraordinary precautions should be taken. The day passed off in comparative quiet, however, both in this country and across the ocean, barring some disturbance in Paris, which was quelled by the authorities, and in some cities of Spain, where we have been accustomed to think there were no laborers. The success of the May movement has, if anything, exceeded the anticipations of its projectors. In many of the larger cities, notably in New York and Chicago, the concession of the eight hour demand has been quite general among the builders.

Locally, there has been little demonstration at any time in labor circles. On the 5th of August, the masons demanded a concession, which was acceded to, and thenceforth nine hours' labor was accepted as a day's work for a mason, with no diminution of pay. On the 31st of March, the painters and paperers demanded a similar concession, which was made, with a slight modification in the scale of wages.

Various successes have been achieved during the year by the progressive element among the fair sex of our country. I handle this subject somewhat gingerly, lest I may give offence to some of my esteemed friends, who seem sensitive as to any suggestion from one of the opposite sex. Still, as an impartial historian, I should not be justified in wholly ignoring the movement.

The annual meeting of the Women's National Suffrage Association was held in Washington, about the middle of

February. Not the least interesting event, in connection with the occasion, was the celebration of the seventieth anniversary of the venerable Susan B. Anthony, who covered her three score and ten years on the 15th of February. It is an anomaly, that one, however saintly, should be canonized during lifetime, and in fact in less than a century after death, but in the exuberance of spirits on this occasion, the distinguished septagenarian was freely toasted as "St. Susan," and the "Modern St. Anthony."

The chief local event in which the ladies were predominant, was the sixteenth annual session of the W. C. T. U. State Association, which convened in this city, on the first day of October, holding its meetings in the First Presbyterian Church. It was largely attended, and the hospitality of our households was tested to the utmost, to provide for the entertainment of the army of delegates.

The local organization known as the Women's Non-Partisan Society for Political Education and Constitutional Inquiry, has held its meetings with commendable regularity, usually at the residence of one of the members. The local reporter gives us little information as to the nature and scope of the discussions, but rarely fails to speak in highest terms of praise of the tea, which of course is a mere incident of the occasion. The members pretty generally availed themselves of their lately acquired franchise, at the last school election, but as they had been ignored in making up the ticket, they rallied but eighty-six votes of the 1,219 cast. This, doubtless, included some who are not active members of the association.

The year has been phenomenal in the matter of the weather. The oldest inhabitant has scratched his head, in vain endeavor to recall a year, away back in the *teens* of the century, which was the equal of the past season in any particular. I notice that this venerable personage is a little chary of his statements, in regard to weathers he has experienced, since the records

began to be kept. He can safely assert, that when he was nine or ten years of age, he used to chop two cords of wood, and milk six cows before breakfast, and then walk three miles to school, through snow four feet deep, for his schoolmates are all dead, and there is none to gainsay his statement. But when he states that on the 14th of August, '20, snow fell to the depth of six inches on the level, and confirms the date as being the day on which he was married, we confront him with the record showing that the mercury stood at 92° in the shade all that day, and it makes him cautious in subsequent reminiscences.

The remarkable feature of the year has been its high temperature and the unusual rainfall. I see it stated that the rainfall for the year 1889 was some fourteen inches more than the normal. A peculiar feature of the temperature has been, that the warm weather came in the cold months. The highest temperature that I noted was on May 17th and 18th, when the mercury reached 88° at 1 P. M. I heard that the mercury fell to 3° at 7 A. M. on the 3d of December, but it got scared and skittered away up to 19° at 1 P. M., and did not venture below that point, except on February 18th and March 6th, when it settled to 18°.

We had two days of fair sleighing, the 24th and 25th of January, and then resumed wheels. Again, on the 21st of February, a fair coating of snow made sleighing for three days, and Billy Morwick's solitary bell, tinkled its unique solo on the street, recalling the melody of the brindle cow's bell in the depths of the huckleberry swamp, long years ago.

The icemen became nervous about the ice supply for the summer, as week after week passed, and the ponds were not even skimmed over. A limited supply was secured by private parties from Fair Haven, but others still hoped. Never before had the ice supply failed, but when the slight freeze, in early March, barely sufficed to skim over the Owasco, to the depth

of a couple of inches, which immediately gave way under the influence of a warm wave, hope gave place to despair. Mr. Thornton, however, rose to the occasion and arranged for his supply, across the border. Being the only dealer supplied, he has a big thing on ice, and you can take it at his prices, or do without it, as you choose. He does not seem to be disposed to take advantage of a helpless constituency, and about double the usual rates will compensate for tariff, freight, and extra waste of long transportation.

I found the snowdrop in bloom, in my garden, on the first of February, but I think the spring flowers were little, if any, in advance of the average season. The cherry bloomed and the oriole came on the 4th of May, which was very prompt, perhaps a little in advance of the usual time.

Speaking of flowers, my neighbor, whose lawn is a paradise of flowers of different varieties in their season, induced me last year, by the gift of a few choice bulbs, to enliven my own lawn with a touch of color, in contrast with the prevailing green. I was exultant at my success. I watched the passer-by, as, with pleased eye and distended nostril, he admired the perfectly rounded trusses of my daintily tinted hyacinths, and breathed in their delicious fragrance, never dreaming but that I imported the bulbs direct from Holland. On Easter eve, I bade them a lingering good-night. In the gray of the Easter morn, some wayfarer, whose piety was earlier than mine, appropriated the entire stock, and if they decorated any shrine on Easter day, it was not the one whereat I worshipped. I queried whether I was wholly blameless, in placing so great a temptation in the way of the devotee, whose passion for floral decoration rose superior to his respect for the eighth commandment, without setting a man-trap near by, but I reflected that Easter would come this year before the hyacinths were in bloom, and resolved to try again. A peripatetic dog of the neighborhood, that delights in raiding my premises has this

season been the bane of my endeavor. After treeing my pet cats, and tipping over the garbage tub, he rushes to my flower bed, where he growls and paws and kicks, in vaunting his prowess, and the bulbs fly hither and yon, like a brood of scared sparrows. I do not think that it improves the temper of a hyacinth bulb to be kicked out of bed in midwinter. However, I think I shall repeat the experiment, not so much to tempt the pious or to please the dog, as to encourage my neighbor in his laudable efforts to induce people to beautify their lawns.

To return from my digression, I think the weather was peculiar to our locality. While we were having abundant rains, portions of the west and northwest were parched with drouth. On the 8th of November, while we were enjoying a temperature of 50° with light rain, the semi-tropical region of New Mexico and Texas was visited by a blizzard, which lasted for eight days, during which time, several cowboys were frozen to death, and immense herds of cattle and sheep perished.

Not less notable have been the number and extent of disasters caused by the elements. On the 31st of May, occurred the memorable disaster at Johnstown, Pa., occasioned by the bursting of an artificial dam, the loosened flood sweeping away several villages in the Conemagh Valley. The loss of life is variously estimated at from 2,500 to 6,000. About the same time, immense destruction of property in Pennsylvania and western New York, was occasioned by swollen streams and rivers. A disaster similar to that at Johnstown, occurred February 22d, caused by the breaking away of a dam, built for irrigating purposes across the Hassayampa river, in Arizona, by which some fifty lives were lost. On the 9th of July, a cloud-burst at Johnstown, in this state, destroyed a vast amount of property, and occasioned the loss of several lives. On the 9th and 10th of September, a violent gale and unusually high tides wrought immense destruction of property at

Coney Island and vicinity. During the month of April of the present season, the lower Mississippi Valley has been flooded by the breaking of levees, and unusual destruction of property has been the result. Tornadoes have been ricocheting over the country with amazing frequency, and with a singular disregard for the safety of life and property. On the 12th of January, one of these terrors swept over Clinton, Ky., demolishing many buildings and killing ten persons. On the 27th of March, a tornado lit down upon the city of Louisville, Ky., destroying over a million dollars' worth of property, and killing upwards of a hundred people. Happily Auburn has escaped these dire calamities. Remarkably high winds have at times prevailed, but without the destructive force that other localities have witnessed. The most severe blow was on the 26th of December, when a chimney of the Fulton street school building was blown over, which crashed in the roof in its fall. Fortunately the school was not in session. On the 24th of April, an earthquake visited the Pacific coast, the most severe of its kind for twenty years. No great damage was done, but several localities were badly shaken up, and the people were more than ordinarily nervous, for the reason that many of them had just returned from the mountains, whither they had taken refuge to escape the destruction, foretold by a religious enthusiast, which would be wrought by an earthquake on the 14th of April. The prophet was just ten days wide of the mark as to date, and considerably off as to the severity of the quake, otherwise he would have made himself famous, had he escaped the destruction.

Disastrous conflagrations have visited many localities, notably, Seattle, Wyoming Territory, June 6, with a loss of \$5,000,000; and Lynn, Massachusetts, November 26, completely devastating the business portion of the city, with an estimated loss of \$4,000,000. On the 28th of November, \$4,000,000 went up in flames in the city of Boston. The burning of Secretary Tracy's

residence in Washington, on the 3rd of February, was peculiarly sad, from the fact that Mrs. Tracy lost her life in trying to escape from a window, while Miss Tracy and her maid perished in the flames. The secretary, himself, was barely rescued in an unconscious state. Thanks to the efficiency of our appliances for protection against fires, Auburn has escaped any serious loss. Several blazes have started which have been speedily quelled, the only one of any importance in the business part of the city, being the McCrea block in State street, on March 29th. As the ex-mayor contemplated demolishing this relic of early Auburn, during the present season, and replacing it with a building more in keeping with its surroundings, the loss may be regarded as slight. Barring the loss of kindling wood, a more complete destruction would have been money in his honor's pocket.

The year has been notable for the prevalence of sickness. During the late fall and far into the winter, the Russian Influenza or "La Grippe," spread over all Europe, and finally migrated to this country. People were at first inclined to regard the visitation as a joke, but those who lived through an attack of the disease, were disposed to speak with a shuddering respect of the strange visitor. Auburn did not escape the scourge, and the mortality roll of the city, during its prevalence, will be memorable, as far in excess of anything in our previous history. Among children, scarlet fever and diphtheria have been unusually prevalent, as also the whooping cough, and during March and April, the measles prevailed to an extent and severity that the disease came to be regarded as epidemic.

I must pass over unnoticed many inviting topics of general interest, to make room for a brief sketch of some of the more important local happenings.

Political interests have been unusually active in our community. The death of Congressman Nutting rendered neces-

sary the selection of a representative to fill the vacancy. The Hon. Sereno E. Payne, who was Mr. Nutting's predecessor, was elected to succeed him. Mr. Payne, I may add, is at present climbing the ladder of fame, by fathering the Niagara Ship Canal project, to promote the interests of lake navigation.

The conjunction of impending vacancies in the important offices of sheriff, county judge and surrogate, rendered the nominating convention of the predominant party an occasion of more than usual interest. It convened on Monday, September 2, and completed its work a little before 3 o'clock the following morning, indicating that eight hours is not counted a day's work in politics.

The Senatorial Convention for this district assembled in Auburn, Oct. 2d. A triangular contest soon developed, and after nearly three weeks' steady balloting, the convention, which had adjourned to Ithaca, decided upon the Hon. Thomas Hunter, of this county, one of the original entries in the race.

The change in the national administration, occasioned by the election of President Harrison, rendered a change in the post-mastership of this city an imperative necessity. The principle that to the victor belong the spoils, is too well established to be successfully resisted by any sentimentality about civil service. On the 19th of February, General John N. Knapp, was appointed postmaster by the president. An indignation meeting was called, to meet at the Court House on the 24th of February, to protest against the nomination, and to endeavor to prevent its confirmation. It would be unjust to say that the meeting was a mammoth failure. On the contrary, it was largely attended, but the multitude did not bristle with indignation. It was a good-natured body, which waited a reasonable length of time for the indignant spirit to materialize, and upon the failure thereof, adjourned *sine die*, without going through the formality of an organization. Two days later, General Knapp's appointment was confirmed. On the 1st of April, or rather the

31st of March, at midnight, General Knapp assumed the duties of the position. There is something mysterious about this midnight transfer of the official burden. Possibly it was intended to circumvent the reporters, lest they should give a sensational account of it; possibly the adjustment of salary may have been a consideration; possibly it was in deference to a prejudice against making the transfer on All Fools' Day; but in the absence of definite information, there is a weird and uncanny air pervading the transaction. The government inspector counting postage stamps in the subdued light, until he could not distinguish a green stamp from a blue one—the tired clerks, putting their reluctantly abandoned desks in order, the outgoing and incoming officials, watching the slowly moving hands of the office clock, creeping toward the midnight hour, the transfer of keys, the brisk patter of footsteps along the deserted streets, as the old and the new postmaster hasten homeward, to explain to their respective households, the cause of their late hours—all this, if not a cruel, was at least an unusual official execution, the constitutionality of which might well have been tested in the courts. On the 1st of May, or rather on the 30th of April at midnight, General Knapp transferred the office, from its old quarters in Exchange street, to the new government building, which was in waiting. The following morning, the American flag, with forty-two stars, floated from the flag-staff, in token that the new two-cent postage stamp could be procured beneath. This new stamp, by the way, was put into circulation about the first of March. It is somewhat smaller than its predecessors, of a reddish color, bordering on the cherry tint, and doesn't look worth more than a cent. The market continues firm, however, at two cents.

On the 13th of November, the new Burtis Opera House was dedicated, with simple devotional exercises, followed by brief addresses from Mayor Wheeler and Congressman Payne, and the play of *Monbars*, with Robert Mantell as star.

On the 11th of December, the Rev. Dr. Hubbard, gave an oyster supper to twelve hundred boys, at the First Presbyterian Church. A more elaborate combination of boys and noise and joys was never before witnessed in Auburn, if anywhere else on the face of the globe. Addresses were made by several veterans, but the boys were on top, and parental advice didn't count for much. The speakers were glad to retire, with leave to print.

January 17th, Miss Amelia B. Edwards lectured in the Central Presbyterian Church, upon some features of Ancient Egypt. I was busily engaged at the time, in studying the development of the *Grippe*, and was thereby debarred the pleasure of hearing her. She is reputed to be the most learned woman of the age. This may be true, with the possible limitation that she is better versed in the ways of the Egyptians 4,000 years ago, than in the history of the latter half of the nineteenth century. But one cannot be expected to know everything. I was somewhat surprised to read that she preferred Anthony Trollope to either Dickens or Thackeray.

On the 8th of February, the women's police parlor held its first reception, with Bridget Cassidy as leader in the german. This institution, erected under the auspices of the city fathers, at a cost of some \$5,000, is an unpretentious brick addition to the north rear of the City Hall, upon the site of a couple of small wooden dog kennels, which were erected there some two years ago for the accommodation of stray or offending canines, that might fall into the hands of the police. The present building seems far more appropriate for the site, and is said to be fairly sumptuous in its appointments for the comfort and safe-keeping of the wayward sisters, whose destiny leads them to its door.

On the 11th of February, the first call for the new ambulance at the City Hospital was made, for the conveyance of Thomas J. Morris, who fell and broke one of his limbs in State street. The ambulance was the gift of a coterie of young girls, who

secured the funds for its purchase by their winsome ways, and by profitable sales of little immaterials, which girls can always effect.

On the 18th of February, the Historical Society was again entertained by the president and his wife, at their hospitable family mansion. Some literary exercises were indulged in, to keep up the prestige of the society, but the feature of the evening was the generous and unrestrained social hospitality.

Shortly after the middle of March, Mr. Dexter A. Smith, who had purchased the Dunning Block, at the corner of Genesee and Exchange streets, inaugurated a vigorous renovation of the internal arrangements of the building. The rooms above the first floor were nicely fitted up for offices and suits of rooms for residence; a new entrance was made on Exchange street, from which a passenger elevator communicated with the floors above. This is the first experiment in the city, of the introduction of an elevator into a business block, for other than freight purposes. Whether it dates a new era in office renting in the city, remains to be seen.

I should not fail to mention, that the conspicuous dove-cote, that so long graced the building at the corner of North and Genesee streets, was purchased and placed by Mr. Smith, upon the top of his building. It was built some five years ago, by a rival telephone company, as a receiver of telephone wires, and will continue to be used for that purpose. Its sale will enable the directors of the defunct company to make their first and final dividend.

On the 29th of April, or on the 30th, or between the 29th and 30th, at any rate sometime during the week beginning with April 28, William Kemmler was to have suffered the death penalty, in the prison, by means of an electric shock. It would have been the first execution of its kind by due process of law, in this or any other country. The manner of his taking off was asserted by interested parties to be cruel and

unusual, and therefore unconstitutional. The case was carried through the courts, by the usual slow processes, to the court of appeals, but without relief and the decree of the lower court was left unmodified. Kemmler's offence was the murder of his wife in Buffalo, brutally chopping her body into twenty-seven pieces. He is extremely ignorant and from report differs from a brute only in being gifted with the power of speech. Still, he became converted, and having directed how his personal effects, consisting of a pictorial Bible, "pigs in clover," a slate filled with his autographs and a testament, should be distributed among his keepers and spiritual advisers, he was prepared to meet his doom.

As the day approached for his execution, an army of reporters put in an appearance, eager to glean the slightest information upon which to base a sensational article. The law prohibits the publication of the details of the execution, under penalty of fine and imprisonment. The freedom of the press was thereby imperilled. The press became frantic to show its defiance of the law. It bored for facts and failing to strike them, gave play to fancy. Lurid head-lines and cuts of fantastic appliances, that were not to be used, flared in the daily papers and pandered to the morbid curiosity, which depraved human nature always exhibits in a capital execution. At the last moment a professedly disinterested attorney appears upon the scene, with a writ of *habeas corpus* from the United States court, staying execution until the constitutionality of the law can be passed upon in the Federal courts. Immediately upon the heel of this transaction, the lower house of our state legislature, hurriedly passes an act to abolish capital punishment, which failed of concurrence in the senate, and went into the legislative waste-basket. Meantime, a Buffalo attorney secures a writ of *habeas corpus*, to test the question of transferring to the wardens of prisons, the duty of executing criminals, as against the sheriff of the bailiwick, within which the offence

was committed, who from time immemorial has been solely vested with the authority to kill by law. The hearing was brought before Judge Underwood, on the 10th of May, and by consent of parties a decision, overruling the questions raised, was entered, that it might be passed upon by the court of appeals as soon as practicable.

There can be little doubt that Kemmler will eventually be executed, in accordance with the terms of his sentence, but the records of criminal jurisprudence present no travesty of justice to compare with this. Evidently the law is a mistake. It should have condemned the offender to service as a lineman, with some electric light company. The exact date of execution would have been as uncertain as at present, but the taking off would eventually have been instantaneous, painless, and of sufficient publicity to satisfy the most exacting constituency.

On the 30th of April, Mr. Seward's free reading rooms in Exchange street, closed for the season. According to the interesting published report of Mr. James Hamilton, the librarian and superintendent, the season has been the most successful of any since the library was opened. The total number of visitors during the year was 32,784, something over 2,000 in excess of any previous year. This number, of course, includes the several visits made by the same individual. Rainy days and Sundays developed the largest attendance, and the free stationery department was a constant source of enjoyment and of liberal patronage.

In a general way, Auburn has experienced a year of subdued but substantial prosperity. The Board of Trade has apparently been on a still hunt for the wary goddess, who guides the destinies of productive industry, and reports traces of her footprints within our corporate limits. We have escaped business failures of any importance, while our established industries have been especially prospered. The occupancy of the large Barber Mills, on Washington street, as a shoe manufactory, by the energetic

firm of Dunn & McCarthy, and the continuance of the same business at their old quarters in Garden street, by Messrs. F. A. Barber & Co., enlarges an industry of more than ordinary importance to our community. A similar enterprise, of no less importance, is the shoe manufactory of Messrs. Cowells & Young, on the Owasco outlet, below the big dam. The near completion of a branch of the Cayuga Lake Railroad, from Union Springs direct to Auburn, is an indication that people are in a hurry to get here. The Richardson block, in Exchange street, whose inception I mentioned in my last record, ran up seven stories before it stopped, and is the home of one of the finest and most complete furniture and furnishing establishments in Central New York. The completion of the Burtis Opera House affords an elegant resort for public entertainments, which "fills a long felt want." Our Common Council has accepted the generous donation, by Mr. Charles Standart, of a tract of land for a public park in the north part of the city, which will please our posterity. We have a contract for a new iron bridge across Genesee street. We had some \$30,000 to pay towards its cost, but by injudicious banking, the fund has shrunk to about \$10,000.

Our safety has been enhanced by compelling the railroad companies to station flagmen at all the railroad crossings, within the city limits. Last summer, we introduced a street sweeper; this spring we reinforce the sweeper with a street scraper. I notice also upon the street, a new street sprinkler, which delivers its libation vertically, rather than horizontally as did the old style sprinkler. It is not so dangerous to get behind it. Auburn has been growing handsome, too. Under the supervision of Mayor Wheeler, the Seward Park has been graded, sodded, sidewalked and beautified, till it is now in keeping with its surroundings, and a credit to the city. The Isaac S. Allen homestead, on Genesee street, has doffed the staid architecture of half a century ago, and greets the beholder with a charming

artistic exterior. Similarly, the old Selover homestead, on North street, went through a tedious process of transformation from which it came forth one of the most pleasing private residences in appearance, of which our city can boast. More elaborate still is the change which the home of Col. E. D. Woodruff, on South street, has been undergoing during the long slow months of fall and winter. Over in the somewhat architecturally unaspiring locality of the fourth ward, the old Seymour street school building has given place to a beautiful and commodious structure, in keeping with modern ideas of what a school house in a civilized community should be.

I regret to record that there are some things we have left undone. The Appian way from Swift street to the foot of the lake, whose inauguration I prematurely announced in my last, has gone to meet the toboggan slide. The projected Owasco street electric railway, awaits the resuscitation of the Owasco lake park, which lingered a frail summer existence, upon the island at the foot of the lake. But we can get along without bosom pins until we are older.

I must draw my already too extended record to a close. In so doing, I am painfully conscious of many omissions of staid historical fact, that might well have supplanted much herein presented, but this infirmity preserves the consistency of the record, and will tend to obviate any controversy as to the authorship. I ask your indulgence, while I hurriedly recall the names of some of those who have joined the host of the unnumbered dead, during the year, and will then relieve your patience.

My necrological record, perhaps the most valuable for reference of any portion of the whole, is lamentably extended.

Among the distinguished foreigners whose deaths I have noted, are the following :

1889, MAY 16.—In Munich, Queen Mary of Bavaria, mother of King Otto of Bavaria, aged 64.

JULY 31.—In Edinburgh, Scotland, Horatius Bonar, aged 80, a well known writer of hymns.

SEPT. 23.—In London, William Wilkie Collins, aged 66, a popular novelist.

SEPT. 25.—At Wimbledon, England, Eliza Cook, poetess, aged 71. She was a co-temporary of Felicia Hemans and Mary Howitt, both of whom she survived. The most widely known production of her pen is, doubtless, "*The Old Arm Chair*."

OCT. 19.—In Lisbon, Luis I, King of Portugal, aged 51 years. He was brother-in-law of King Humbert of Italy, whose youngest sister he married. He is succeeded by his son, King Carlos I.

NOV. 29.—In London, Martin Farquhar Tupper, aged 79, the well known author of "*Proverbial Philosophy*."

DEC. 12.—In Venice, Robert Browning, aged 77 years, 7 months, the most distinguished poet of his day. His poems are affected and professedly esteemed by the highly cultured, although the obscurity which pervades them is often beyond the penetration of the most persistent study. His greatest production is generally conceded to be "*The Ring and the Book*," which appeared some twenty years ago (1868).

DEC. 24.—In London, Charles Mackay, author, poet and journalist, aged 75.

DEC. 29.—In Oporto, Portugal, Teresa Cristina Maria, consort of the deposed Emperor Dom Pedro of Brazil, aged 67.

1890, JAN. 7.—In Berlin, the dowager Empress Augusta, of Germany, widow of the late Emperor William, aged 78.

JAN. 14.—In London, Robert Cornelius, Lord Napier of Magdala, aged 79. A distinguished engineer in the British Army, during the Indian mutiny, and later general-in-command during the Abyssinian campaign. He was made field marshal, in 1882.

JAN. 18.—In Turin, Italy, Prince Amadeo Ferdinand Marie, Duke of Aosta, aged 44 years, 8 months. He was the second son of King Victor Emanuel, and brother of King Humbert of

Italy. In January, 1871, he was made king of Spain, but the troubled state of the realm, and frequent attempts at assassination, rendered the king business distasteful to him, and on the 11th of February, 1873, he abdicated the throne and retired to Italy, where he has since lived.

FEB. 11.—Seyyid Khalifah ben Saïd, Sultan of Zanzibar, age and particulars of his career not known. His brother Seynoid Ali, succeeded to the throne.

FEB. 18.—At Volosea, in Austria, Count Gyula or Julius Andrassey, a distinguished Hungarian statesman, aged 67. He was a follower of Kossuth, in the Hungarian revolution of 1848, was sentenced to death when the revolution ended, and for ten years was a fugitive in Constantinople, Paris and London. Amnesty to political offenders having been proclaimed, he returned to Hungary, in 1857, and subsequently became prime minister to the monarch who had decreed his death. He was a devoted and highly esteemed friend of Bismarck, was a representative at the famous International Congress in Berlin, in 1878, and upon the conclusion of the Vienna treaty of peace, in 1879, resigned all his offices, and has since lived a secluded life.

Of the more widely known personages in our own land, whose careers have ended, I have noted these :

1889, MAY 16.—In New York, Allen Thorndike Rice, aged 36. He was the editor and proprietor of the *North American Review*, a periodical whose popularity and success, he established. He was on the eve of departure for Russia, as minister from this country, and his untimely death cut short a promising career of usefulness.

MAY 24.—In South Boston, Mass., Laura D. Bridgman, the noted blind, deaf mute, aged 60 years. The most remarkable case on record of intellectual attainment, despite the entire lack of the two senses most serviceable in the acquisition of knowledge.

JUNE 12.—In Geneva, N. Y., William W. Wright, aged 76,

a genial man of local note in political circles, and at one time a canal commissioner of this state.

JUNE 17.—In Boston, John Gibbs Gilbert, aged 79, for many years a favorite actor at Wallack's theatre, in New York.

JUNE 25.—In Fremont, Ohio, Lucy Ware Webb Hayes, wife of Ex-President Hayes, aged 56 years.

JUNE 26.—In Lancaster, Pa., General Simon Cameron, aged 90, long the Republican political leader of the Keystone State.

JUNE 28.—In Lynn, Mass., Miss Maria Mitchell, aged 71, a noted astronomer, and for many years professor of astronomy in Vassar College.

JUNE 29.—Mary A. Brigham, the newly elected president of Mt. Holyoke College, killed in a railway accident, aged 55.

JULY 1.—In New Haven, Conn., Theodore Dwight Woolsey, Ex-President of Yale College, aged 88.

JULY 7.—In New York, Charles W. Sanders, author of the widely known series of Sanders' School Readers.

JULY 10.—In Richmond, Va., Julia Gardiner Tyler, widow of Ex-President Tyler, aged 69.

SEPT. 2.—In Luzerne, Switzerland, Dr. Samuel A. Allibone, aged 73, author of a popular dictionary of English literature.

SEPT. 11.—In New York, Samuel Sullivan Cox, aged 65, familiarly known as "Sunset Cox." With the exception of about five years, Mr. Cox had been a member of congress continuously since 1857, representing a district in Ohio to March, 1865, when he removed to New York, and was returned to congress from the Sixth New York District, in 1868. In 1885, he was appointed minister to Turkey, where he remained about one year, when he resigned and resumed congressional life. He was the author of several books, and was noted for his genial humor.

OCT. 15.—In Oswego, Newton W. Nutting, aged 49, representative in congress from this congressional district.

OCT. 20.—In New York, B. T. Babbitt, aged 80, millionaire, and author of "Babbitt's Soap."

DEC. 6.—In Cannes, France, Francis Winthrop Palfrey, historian, aged 58.

DEC. 6.—In New Orleans, "the man without a country," Jefferson Davis, aged 81 years, 6 months. After the collapse of the Southern Confederacy, he was deprived of the fame of martyrdom, through the clemency of federal government, but persistently refused to accept the conditions of restoration to citizenship, and died an alien in the land of his nativity.

DEC. 22.—In Utica, Orsamus B. Matteson, ex-congressman, aged 84.

DEC. 23.—In Atlanta, Ga., Henry W. Grady, editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*, and the eloquent advocate of the "New South."

1890, JAN. 2.—In Philadelphia, George H. Boker, aged 67, a poet of some note, and at one time, United States minister to Russia and also to Turkey.

JAN. 8.—In Canandaigua, Elbridge G. Lapham, aged 75, Ex-United States Senator and a lawyer of some local note. He was one of the two senators elected at the time of the defection of Senators Conkling and Platt.

JAN. 9.—In Washington, William D. Kelly, aged 76, known as the "Father of the House." He was first elected to congress from Philadelphia in 1860 and had held his seat, by re-elections, continuously from that time till his death.

JAN. 15.—In Washington, Walker Blaine, aged 34 years, 8 months, eldest son of Secretary James G. Blaine. At the time of his death, he held the position of solicitor of the state department.

JAN. 17.—In Jersey City, Peter Henderson, a widely known horticulturist and florist, aged 67.

JAN. 22.—In Philadelphia, Adam Forepaugh, aged 69, a showman whose reputation was second only to Barnum's.

JAN. 27.—General Lester B. Faulkner, aged 53, at the time of his death, under sentence to imprisonment for irregularities in conducting a banking institution at Dansville, from which he had appealed.

FEB. 22.—In New York, John Jacob Astor, aged 77 years, 9 months, grandson of the original Jacob, who came to this country in 1783, and started business with a small stock of musical instruments, which he exchanged for furs, and embarked in the fur trade, accumulating a vast fortune, which his descendants have kept together and increased. The estate of the Junior John Jacob, is estimated at anywhere from \$75,000,000 to \$100,000,000, chiefly in real estate.

FEB. 26.—At Lake Helen, Fla., Martin Brewer Anderson, aged 75, president of Rochester University from 1853 to 1888, when he resigned, on account of advanced age and failing health. He was a man of rare executive ability, a profound scholar, and a great favorite with the students who came under his charge. His wife died at the same place, four days before him, and the remains of both were brought to Rochester for interment.

MARCH 5.—In London, after a lingering illness, Abraham Lincoln, aged 17, son of Robert Lincoln, United States Minister to the Court of St. James, and grandson of Abraham Lincoln.

MARCH 21.—In Chicago, Major-General George Crook, aged 61 years, 6 months. He had an honorable war record as a cavalry leader in the army of the Potomac, and since the war, has distinguished himself in several Indian campaigns in the west. He was in command of the department of Missouri, at the time of his death.

MARCH 23.—In Washington, General Robert C. Schenck, aged 80 years, 5 months. He had an honorable war record, and his congressional career brought him into political prominence. General Grant appointed him minister to Great Britain, a position which he held until February, 1876, when he resigned on account of a scandal, arising from his connection with the

Emma mine speculation. He has since been engaged in the practice of law, in Washington.

APRIL 13.—In Washington, Samuel J. Randall, aged 61 years, 6 months. He was the Democratic leader in the House, although he was a little off color with his party, on account of views upon the tariff question. He had been a member of congress from Pennsylvania continuously since 1862, and had twice been Speaker of the House.

APRIL 27.—At Coney Island, John J. O'Brien, aged 49, a noted and typical New York politician.

MAY 3.—In Washington, United States Senator James B. Beck of Kentucky, aged 68.

MAY 5.—In Chicago, Hon. Andrew Shuman, born in Lancaster Co., Pa., November 8, 1830. In 1846, Mr. Shuman removed to Auburn, and commenced work in the office of the *Auburn Daily Advertiser*, where he remained until 1851, when he entered Hamilton College. He did not complete the course, but after two years of college life, he became editor of the *Syracuse Daily Journal*. He was made assistant editor of the *Chicago Evening Journal*, in 1856, becoming editor-in-chief in 1861. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois, in 1876, and held some other positions of political importance, but was chiefly devoted to editorial work. He relinquished the active editorship of the *Journal* some two years since, but continued to retain an interest in the paper, and to contribute to its columns. The last article he wrote was an obituary notice of Senator Beck, who was suddenly taken away by heart failure, while Gov. Shuman was as suddenly stricken down by apoplexy. He was a genial companion, of high moral rectitude, and a notable example of a useful and successful career, achieved by persistent application and unswerving integrity.

MAY 13.—In Albany, the distinguished jurist, Amasa J. Parker, aged 83.

I have noted the decease of the following well known residents of our city and vicinity :

1889, MAY 14.—Luman Matson, age 77, for many years a successful practitioner of dentistry in our city.

MAY 18.—Mrs. Jane Fowler, mother of Hon. John S. Fowler, at the advanced age of 92.

JUNE 10.—Emerous D. Clapp, age 61, a prominent business man, and founder of the Clapp Manufacturing Works, and the Clapp Wagon Company.

JUNE 12.—William F. Nobles, age 39, a popular caterer, and for several years proprietor of a well conducted dining parlor.

JUNE 17.—Rev. William Hosmer, age 79, a distinguished Methodist divine, and aforetime editor of the *Northern Christian Advocate*. He was a zealous anti-slavery agitator in his day, and a warm advocate of the Temperance Reform.

JULY 3.—Samuel L. Thorpe, age 73, for many years a keeper upon the Auburn prison.

JULY 3.—Lydia Ann Cornell, age 77, widow of the late Paul D. Cornell.

JULY 22.—Dr. Theodore Dimon, age 73, for many years a prominent physician of this city.

JULY 28.—Dr. Horatio Robinson, age 85, the pioneer of Homeopathy in this vicinity, where he had had a large and successful practice since his removal to the city in 1841.

JULY 30.—John B. Gaylord, age 80, in his prime, the successful manager of a large foundry establishment in the city.

NOV. 21.—Edwin P. Hoskins, age 77, sheriff of the county from 1857 to 1860.

NOV. 24.—Mrs. Sally A. Stone, age 88, a life-long resident of Auburn, and highly esteemed for her christian character and unostentatious worth.

DEC. 22.—Willard D. Bundy, age 74, a well known dealer in household supplies.

1890, JAN. 5.—Corry W. Delano, age 35, proprietor of the National Hotel.

JAN. 12.—Hon. George I. Post, age 64, formerly prominent in local politics, and noted for his active interest in railroad projects.

JAN. 13.—Mrs. Caroline E. Nye, age 71, widow of the late L. W. Nye.

JAN. 13.—William G. Ocobock, age 81, a well known builder in masonry.

JAN. 15.—William H. West, age 49, a tinsmith by trade, and a mechanic of superior excellence.

JAN. 17.—Monroe Hamlin, age 73, a carpenter and builder of local note in his day.

JAN. 20.—Harriet S. Merriman, widow of the late C. H. Merriman.

JAN. 27.—Mrs. Eliza Casey, age 77, wife of George Casey, Esq.

JAN. 29.—Dr. John Wood, age 84, a veterinary surgeon of considerable local repute.

FEB. 7.—In Union Springs, Daniel D. Allen, age 80, father of Mr. G. W. Allen, of this city.

FEB. 8.—Sarah Parker, colored, at the extreme age of 106.

FEB. 21.—Andrew W. Remington, aged 77, a well known carpenter and builder, in by-gone days.

MARCH 16.—Fred H. Powell, aged 45, dealer in seeds, etc.

MARCH 23.—James S. Bradburn, aged 89, a venerable and genial old gentleman, formerly employed as keeper in the Auburn prison.

MARCH 25.—Randolph R. Kimberly, aged 57, accidentally killed by falling from a window, at No. 95 Genesee street.

APRIL 2.—After many years of impaired health, Mrs. Susan B. Avery, wife of Edward H. Avery, a lady highly esteemed for her Christian worth.

APRIL 4.—Wilson J. Keyes, aged 75, a marble cutter by trade, and long a quiet and respected resident of Auburn.

MAY 1.—Milton B. Kimbark, aged 70, for the past twenty years, a clerk in the S. C. R. R. office in this city. He died on

his way to California, whither he had started in hope of regaining his health.

MAY 4.—C. C. Durrant, aged 60, a highly esteemed citizen, connected with the collar manufactory in Auburn prison.

MAY 5.—Commodore Charles Richardson. In his early life, Commodore Richardson entered the United States Navy as a midshipman, a brief experience which sufficed to give him the title by which he was afterwards familiarly known. He was at different times a resident of Auburn, but for some twenty years or more had been engaged in business elsewhere. His death was due to an apparently slight injury received in a railway accident. He was highly respected in this community as a genial Christian gentleman.

Once more, my dear doctor, I extend the parting hand, possibly for the last time. In that event, I am consoled with the report that an organization of ladies has lately been effected in our community, for the cultivation of current events, and I rest in the hope that a more acceptable record for your perusal may be the outcome of their deliberations.

Reviewing the long and wearisome records which I have prepared for you, I am reminded of an incident of my early boyhood life, on the farm. What led to it, has gone from memory, but I remember that the "hired man" turned to me one day as I was following him to the harvest field, with this remark. "Young man, you think you're smart, and once in a great while, you do say something cute, but you keep your everlasting clack going, till you spoil it."

I shudder to think that I may not have wholly outgrown my boyhood, even with the lapse of fifty years, and so hasten to close my record.

Very truly yours,

B. B. SNOW,

Historiographer.

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