

CITY AFFAIRS.

Meteorological Observations.

The following is the War Department weather report...

Table with columns: Place of Observation, Direction of Wind, Force of Wind, State of the Sky, Temperature.

Barometer corrected for elevation and temperature.

Meetings This Day.

Washington Lodge at 7 P. M. Catholic Institute at 11 P. M.

Auction Sales This Day.

Lawrence & Grimbail will call at 11 o'clock at the old Postoffice, real estate.

R. M. Marshall & Brother will call at 11 o'clock at the old Postoffice, real estate.

J. F. Mathews will call at 11 o'clock at the old Postoffice, real estate.

S. C. Black will call at 11 o'clock at the old Postoffice, real estate.

T. N. Enslow & Co. will call at 11 o'clock at the new Customhouse stores, Dundee bagging.

Miles Drake will call at 10 o'clock at his store, clothing, dry goods, &c.

P. B. Lalane & Co. will call at 9 o'clock at their store, Maline & Co. wools.

PERSONAL.—George W. Olney, Esq., associate editor of the New York World, is in the city on a visit to his relatives.

RECORDS OF THE TREASURER at Joseph B. Enlow's drug store, No. 39 Broad street, February 8, 1871, 46; 10; 47; 12; 49; 52; 4; 43; 5; 54; 5; 54.

CLERKS AND STABLE.—One great for being drunk and disorderly was made on Tuesday night and the offender fined \$5 next morning.

Jacob Brown, arrested by Officer Johnson for trespassing upon the premises of O. O'Neill, in Calhoun street, is held for examination.

CRIMINALITY.—The report of the city registrar for the week ending February 4, 1871, shows the number of deaths in the city to have been, in all, 22. Of these 4 were whites, and 16 blacks and colored. Among the colored were 7 deaths of children under 1 year, and 3 of adults between 10 and 20 years of age. In addition to the above 20 still-births are reported.

GOING AT TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.—Yesterday morning a colored boy was offering for sale, in Beaufort street, a fine umbrella valued at between \$5 and \$6 for the insignificant sum of twenty-five cents. He was noticed by a policeman, who took his umbrella from him, and an investigation it proved to be the property of Messrs. Menke & Muller, merchant tailors, in King street. It was forthwith returned to them, and the boy allowed to depart in peace.

UNITED STATES COURT.—The District Court was opened at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, his Honor Judge Bryan presiding.

Ex parte Cadwallader Rivers. Petition for voluntary bankruptcy. Referred to Registrar Clawson for adjudication.

The case of the Beaufort commissioners was taken up, and the examination of witnesses for the defence continued until 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when the court adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning.

A QUICK RECOVERY.—On Monday afternoon Mr. Metzler, the proprietor of the Globe Hotel, in Queen street, informed Captain Hendricks that a few days before a trunk and valise had been given to a wagon driver to bring to the Globe Hotel from another hotel in the city, and that the baggage had not been heard of. The matter was placed in the hands of Sergeant Reed and Officer Nipson, who discovered the missing articles at a house on State street, where the wagoner had deposited them. They had not been broken open, but were carefully examined behind the door. At four o'clock the next afternoon the articles were returned unopened and in good condition to the owner.

ALL ABOUT A MULE.—About three weeks ago Mr. Patrick Sullivan sold a bay mare mule of a colored man named July Singsler, for the sum of \$75; \$45 cash and the remaining \$30 on a half-year's credit, on the mule to a friend, and a few days afterwards Sullivan went to the mule and got the mule from him. July brought an action before Trial Justice Mackey for the recovery of the animal, and after trial on Tuesday gave a decree for the mule and \$10 damages for the taking away. Not content with this, he made an affidavit of the above facts in relation to the taking, and in addition deposed that the defendant obtained the mule from the friend by saying that he (July) had authorized him to get it. Sullivan was arrested on the charge of grand larceny, and gave bail for his appearance at the examination to be held this morning.

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SAVANNAH AND CHARLESTON RAILROAD.

Annual Meeting of the Stockholders.

The annual meeting of the Savannah and Charleston Railroad Company took place yesterday at 12 M., at the hall of the Planters' and Mechanics' Bank. The majority of the stock being represented, the meeting was called to order by Andrew S. Simons, Esq., in the chair, and S. W. Fisher, Secy. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed. The president's and superintendent's reports were read, and the treasurer's exhibits presented, which, on motion, were accepted, and ordered to be published.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SAVANNAH AND CHARLESTON RAILROAD COMPANY. CHARLESTON, February 8, 1871.

To the Stockholders.—In conformity with the report of the operations of the company for the fiscal year ending December 31st, 1870:

Gross earnings for the year, \$147,345 29
Operating expenses for the year, \$95,619 94
Excess of earnings, \$51,725 35

By the terms of the charter, the dividend on the road was to have been opened to the junction with the Central Road, near Savannah, on the 1st December, 1869.

It was determined on the 11th day of March, 1870—less of three months and eleven days of the most productive season of the year, to suspend the operations of the road, to retake the road, and at one time, actually obstructed the passage of the train over the bridge at Savannah.

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THE BALLOT-BOX.

MORE OF ITS MYSTERIOUS LESSONS.

Active Penmen.—The Wonders of Chirography.—Writing Candidates Into the Mental Tab.

It will be remembered that our last record of the trial of the Beaufort commissioners of election closed with a statement by Mr. C. H. Wright, United States assessor, that he discovered no changes on three prominent handwritings in the boxes on tickets from Bowen to DeLarge, running through boxes from precincts fifty miles apart.

Mr. S. C. Millet, ex-president of the Port Royal Railroad, testified that he voted the Reform ticket at Beaufort, and for C. C. Bowen as the candidate for Congress. Previous to the election had many conversations with one of the commissioners, who was a bitter partisan, and while the latter did not say he would stand by the ballot box, he did strongly intimate that it would be useless for anybody to "put against him or his party." That was the common talk around Beaufort. Witness did not profess to be an expert, but was familiar with handwriting. Knew that Mr. Williams, one of the commissioners, but was not so well acquainted with the handwriting of Cleaves and Langley, his two associates on the board. Witness here examined tickets from Gray's Hill, Cypress Creek, Beaufort, &c., and states that he discovers two or three handwritings prevailing in those boxes. Would not swear it was Mr. Williams' hand; but witness has seen the handwriting of Mr. Williams on United States treasury notes, so that one could not tell the difference. Williams is the greatest expert with a pen witness ever saw. There are certainly three different hands riding through those boxes, and the same person wrote the changes in all. Witness, however, could not identify anybody, because the writing is in pencil. On examination, witness states that he was not a Bowen man, but as between two evils, he voted for C. C. Bowen. There had been a great hue and cry against the commissioners, and witness wrote to Governor Scott that he considered it a crowning crime to appoint three such men to count votes, when two of them were running for office. Does not pretend to recognize Williams' handwriting, because it is in pencil. Had no interest in the result of the trial, except that a great crime had been committed in the community which demanded punishment. It was a common word in town—"You have got the voting, but we have got the count." Witness now made a more careful examination of votes in the several boxes, and testified to the remarkable similarity in the changes from Bowen to DeLarge which are everywhere evident. In the People's precinct a great number of changes were in the identical hand observable in the Beaufort box, yet the two places are forty miles apart.

Mr. H. G. Todd was recalled to testify as to the manner in which he separated one precinct from another, and was enabled to arrive at the results reported by him. He stated that it was done by comparing the number of ballots and their arrangement, when struck, with the tally list furnished by one of the committee of citizens who had compared it with the report of the commissioners. There was one large bundle of 250 which had no indication as to where it belonged. In making an examination of the ballots, they were kept absolutely separate. There was no reason why the ballot-boxes could not have been deposited in the county vault, as it was in a perfectly secure condition, and all the keys had been tendered to the commissioners.

Witness had promised to give him money to keep away, and it was the reason why he (B.) did not wish to appear before the grand jury. The character of Bythewood for truth and honesty was unknown to him, but he was a common drunkard, and had been incarcerated in jail and punished times without number.

Henry Politzer testified that while standing back of the chair of Mr. Williams, one of the commissioners, while he was calling out the names on the tickets, he saw Williams read from a misprinted or blurred ticket the name of Scott, and that he was less definite than the other two. Thought the omission a very strange one, and spoke of the fact several times in Beaufort.

John Proctor, a deputy marshal, testified that he was sent to Beaufort to arrest the ballot-boxes and bring them to Charleston. On the evening of the 5th of January, he found them stored under the house of Mr. Williams, one of the commissioners, with the exception of two, which were used to prop up a boat near by. There were twenty-four in all. They were examined first on these premises, then put upon a cart and carried to the house of Mr. Judd, where they were further examined by two carpenters, by whom they were constructed. These carpenters stated that some alterations had been made in the boxes since they were turned out of their hands, and called attention to some of the nails which did not correspond to those originally driven. They also gave witness several of the nails as specimens of those used by them in the construction of the boxes. This examination was made in the presence of a number of persons. Ten of the boxes were thereupon brought to Charleston, and the remainder were left with Mr. Judd, United States commissioner.

The carpenters stated they had made 23, but only 24 could be found.

On the 24th day of the examination upwards of forty witnesses were examined from People's precinct, who testified as to the manner in which they voted, and the character of the changes which appear when votes could be identified.

The prosecution then announced that its case was closed, and the court adjourned until Monday, when the defence examined three witnesses, whose testimony we shall publish to-morrow.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—At the request of the admirers of Mr. Watkins' dramatic productions, "Trolden Drama," the Academy has repeated last night, and, as on the occasion of its first presentation, was warmly received. There were few plays more absorbing in striking dramatic situations, or in which there is such an excess of attractive dialogue; sufficient, indeed, to furnish material for two or three very respectable dramas. Mr. Watkins as a representative Irishman, certainly has few superiors on the boards, and with the advantage of a fine, physique, sympathetic voice and graceful action, he sways at will the emotions of his audience.

Mrs. Watkins, in her double role of Mary McCarty and Blanche Desmond, displayed remarkable versatility, and appeared as much at home in illustrating the character of the constant, brave and patient exile's wife, as she afterwards played with ease and natural grace the beautiful and dignified Irish heroine. We have heretofore seen Mrs. Watkins in a number of cases scattered her pearls in vocal showers with a profusion which called forth rounds of the most appreciative applause. Upon being encored, she sang with thrilling effect, "The Weaving of the Green." The play announced for to-night, is "Kathleen Mavourneen."

LIGHTNING IN FEBRUARY.—While the snow is tempting sleigh bells just north of us, and skaters are making fairy rings upon the ice-bound streams, we are enjoying the "merry dance" of our winter storms. A flake of snow would be to us a curiosity. A cold day is an exception, and our rains are only gentle reminders that we should sympathize with the Arctic misfortunes of our friends across the line. While we write there are flashes of lightning and rumbling of thunder, which tell of the storm, and we have here a report that Mrs. Watkins sings her scattered her pearls in vocal showers with a profusion which called forth rounds of the most appreciative applause. Upon being encored, she sang with thrilling effect, "The Weaving of the Green." The play announced for to-night, is "Kathleen Mavourneen."

REAL ESTATE SALES.—The following pieces of real estate were sold yesterday morning at auction: The tract of land on the east side of the west branch of the Cooper River, called "Rawley's," in St. John's Parish, containing 740 acres of land, and high