

Historical Society.

The Ulster Historical Society met at the Court House, in this village on Monday last 8th inst., pursuant to announcement. The attendance was not as large as desired therefore but little business was transacted—and an adjournment was made to the 27th of June inst. The address, commemorative of the late Col. George W. Pratt, by Rev. Mr. Temple, of Esopus, will be delivered in the evening.

It is earnestly hoped that the adjourned meeting will be well attended, and that an increased interest will be felt and manifested. Mr. Temple's address will doubtless be one of rare merit; he should, therefore, and for other reasons, have a large audience to entertain.

The Kingston Argus says that Ex-Capt. William Van Wagenen "was restored to his former position in the service by President Lincoln, at the request of U. S. Senators Ira Harris and Edwin D. Morgan." Then, all we have to say is, they must have been imposed upon and deceived, likely by such Januses and pseudo Union men as the editor of the Argus, who denounces the President for every thing he does except yielding to Democratic demagogues.

Celebration at Rifton.

The national anniversary celebration did not take place at Rifton Glen, in this county on the 4th, as announced, on account of the unfavorable state of the weather. But, on Monday afternoon and evening the promised exercises and pic-nic came off, and were very entertaining and satisfactory.

A large number of persons were present. In the evening, an oration was delivered by Rev. J. G. Oakley, to a large and attentive audience. The receipts, which were for the benefit of a new Methodist House of Worship, were fully up to the expectations. The committee thankfully acknowledge the following from those who were not present: Maj. Thomas Cornell \$25, E. B. Newkirk \$10, Wm. F. Romer \$10.

Copperheadism has received a tremendous blow. In Kingston they are as *mum* as lock-jawed pigs. One felt so chagrined over the great Union victory that, we understand, he skulked away in a corner and refused to converse with any one.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of this Association will be on Wednesday next, at 2 o'clock P. M., at the house of H. Wisewell.

CHARLOTTE TYLER, Sec'y.

SUMMARY.

The dwelling houses, located on Division street, Rondout, which were consumed by fire on Monday week, and which we noticed last week, were occupied by the following named persons and their families: Michael Quinn, owner; Widow Ryne; Widow Lynch; Widow Fitzgerald; M. Johnson; M. McGrath; John Call; John Hockey; John Gice; Patrick Hannon, and Michael Murray. Johnson and McGrath lost nearly all their household goods. Widow Ryne lost some \$30 in money, and a good share of her things. The rest of the occupants were fortunate enough to get many of their things out of the burning buildings. The fire was caused by a candle having been left burning near the curtain of a bed. The flame soon caught the curtain, setting it on fire, from which the flames spread to other parts of the building. No insurance.

The body of Peter Peterson, the colored cook, supposed to be the last victim of the ill-fated Greenwood, was found lying in the bottom of the wreck when it was raised. The body was so wedged in between the broken timbers and machinery, that it was found impossible to get it out until the wreck had been hauled out on the ways. The body was finally extricated on the 27th ult., placed in a coffin and has since been buried. Peterson was probably at work in the cabin below when the sad accident occurred. He was no doubt instantly killed.

An extensive copper mine has been discovered on the farm of David Schoonmaker, in the town of Rochester, in this county, and is likely to prove the richest ever worked in this State. The farm was leased some years since by A. S. P. Snyder, M. D., of this village, for the purpose of mining. On the 19th ult., the lease was purchased by D. D. Bell, who immediately commenced operations, and has already made important discoveries. We learn that the mine is now owned by Dr. Meeker Gorham and M. G. Bell.

The appointment of Jacob Sharp to the Colonelcy, and Thomas Fowler to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy, of the 156th Regiment, is officially announced.

At a meeting assembled at Honesdale, Pa., on Monday week, for the purpose of raising militia companies, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company subscribed \$5,000 toward the movement in that county.

Rev. A. H. Gesner, pastor of the Episcopal church of Rondout, has accepted a call to preside over a large and flourishing parish at Leroy, in Genesee county, N. Y.

The Ulster County Temperance Society will meet in the Reformed Dutch Church of Ellenville on the 21st inst.

THE CHALLENGED RACE.—At the late inspection of the firemen of this village, American and Wiltwyck Hose Companies were competitors in a race. That race was won by the American boys. The Wiltwycks feeling confident that they could beat them, challenged the Americans for \$100, to run them at such time and place as they might designate. The challenge was accepted, and the 4th of July, between the hours of 1 and 2 P. M. was named as the time, and the late camp grounds the place for the race. The distance run was 800 feet, carrying 400 feet of hose. The two Companies ran side by side, the Americans coming out about four feet ahead. And so the Wiltwycks lost. It is proper, however, to state that comparatively few of the American boys took part in the race—their ropes being filled by members of Rapid Hose Company of Rondout, and by others; and not only that, but fresh hands would fall in as the tired fell out all along the track of the American boys. However, be that as it may, American Hose won.

Patriotic Present.

The Wiltwyck Hose Company of this village was the recipient of a splendid wreath of artificial flowers, worked in "Red, White and Blue," with evergreen and gilt trimmings—a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kugler. The presentation was made in a speech, by A. Schoonmaker, Jr., and responded to, on behalf of the Company, by P. Harlow. The present was made on the 4th, and was merited by the faithful, active and honest boys of No. 1 Hose.

Veracity at Fault.

The Kingston Argus accuses Union men of "attempts to fasten the stigma of the recent disturbances in New York city and elsewhere on loyal Democrats." This is untrue of the Argus; disloyal Democrats were thus charged. Does that print consider Andrews (one of the editors of the Daily News, a Democratic organ), who was arrested in bed with a negro woman, a loyal Democrat? What were the mobs composed of but Democrats? Did they molest a Democratic printing office or even the residence of a Democrat? Not at all; Union men were their victims. The Argus seems to be as unfortunate in its veracity as its logic.

It is rumored that the Copperhead editorials of the Kingston Argus, which have disgraced that paper of late, are written by a precocious official, who has lately assumed the principal leadership of the Democratic party in this county, and who imagines he has the whole weight of the party upon his shoulders. We have thought recently that the Argus articles bore his ear-mark.

Exploits of an Ulster Boy.

We take the following from Edmond Kirk's sketches of "What I saw in Tennessee." As it relates to that effective officer, Col. Wilder, who is a native of Ulster, it ought to be interesting to our readers:

At every station on the Nashville road, the traveler sees indications of the fierceness of this struggle, and evidences of a valor worthy of the most heroic ages. At Munfordsville, on a little mound overlooking the Green River, is a low earthwork encircled by a shallow ditch, and enclosing less than acre of ground. There Col. Wilder and a small band of raw Indians arrested the northward march of Bragg's army for 40 hours.

"It is the whole of Bragg's force! It is madness to resist! We must surrender!" exclaimed one of Wilder's lieutenants.

"I know we must surrender. But we'll do it when they make us," replied the brave commander.

Five thousand Rebel muskets belched fire upon them during six hours, but crouching behind those mud walls that handful of brave men sent back a storm of hail that mowed down the advancing ranks, as the scythe mows down the summer grass.

"Surrender at once, or we'll give no quarter," was borne to them by a flag of truce.

"We ask none," and the work of death went on.

Fifteen thousand men, six deep, their bayonets gleaming in the sun, then enveloped that little hill, and again and again, within thirty feet of that frail breastwork, poured in their deadly volleys, but at each discharge clear and loud rang out the words: "Aim low, boys. Let every shot tell!" and broken, and decimated the assailants fell back to their quarters.

At sunrise of the third day another flag approached. "You are brave men. We would spare your lives. We have posted cannon at every angle. We can level your intrenchments in half an hour!"

"I do not believe it; convince me of it, and I'll surrender."

They led him out. He saw the guns, and surrendered.

"If he had held out another half hour I should not be here to tell you of it," said the quiet young corporal who told me the story.

Into a stagnant pool at the left of the fort 350 mangled Rebels were thrown at night-fall. Seven hundred now lie buried in the woods hard by. How great a graveyard for so small a town.

The Celebration

The Fourth was observed in good spirit at this place, but not in the style a clear day would have permitted. The rain delayed public demonstrations till noon, though Jubilee appearances were wanting no where, and the noise of cannon and bells was quite sufficient.

The procession was marshaled by Chief Engineer Frame, B. B. Hoornbeek, Esquire, Sheriff Winne, Committeeman Hayes and Deputy General Schryver. It was composed of a Band from Peekskill, Firemen of Kingston and Rondout and their visitors, and carriages carrying the village Magnates and other main men of the occasion.

The Oration by Rev. Mr. Peck was given in the Armory. It was sound and sensible, and also able, eloquent and intensely patriotic. One of its other merits was, that no part of it was knocked into pi by the flapping of the eagle's wings.

The other performances were various.— The tilt of the Hose boys was interesting. The Fourth of July dinner at Host Decker's Hotel was the simon-pure thing. The guests were made exceeding glad on seeing the grand array of delicacies and substantial, and soon the bon-mots were as profuse as the bonne bouches. Towards evening, the celebration became every body's business. All went in, apparently rejoicing in anticipation of the coming news of the war. Some jubilated in groups, others hunted after jocundity in couples, and others still took to *ecstasy* "on their own hooks."

Rain ruled out the pyrotechnic feature of the programme for the night, and that matter stood adjourned till Monday evening, when the art projective was exercised on the Arm-bowry. A vast crowd assembled to see the rockets tear the sky and to witness the darkness vanish before scintillations, fiery curves and flaming wheels. The display came off in due time, and it was good as far as it went, but the grand promised of the performance was *non est inventus*. *

THAT WAR SERMON.— Agreeably to announcement, Rev. Mr. M'Kown, of the First M. E. Church, in this village, last Sunday evening delivered from his pulpit one of the most excellent and patriotic sermons it has been our privilege to hear for some time. The Church was quite uncomfortably crowded by people of the several denominations about us, to listen to this eminent divine. He dwelt at length upon our late victories—using the most beautiful language. Traitors at home as well as those abroad, were handled without gloves; while the sneaking copperhead felt the weight of his words, and since then has uttered hardly a hiss. He was for peace, but not until the infer-

nal rebels were completely subjugated-- and then the crowning light of liberty and freedom would span the whole Union.— The sermon was so well received, that many have expressed the wish that it might be published.

LOCAL RECORD.

The Fourth in Kingston.

The 87th Anniversary of American Independence was celebrated in this village in a becoming manner. At intervals throughout the entire day it rained, making the streets extremely muddy and disappointing everybody, notwithstanding the rain hereabouts was much needed.— The inclemency of the weather necessarily put a damper on some of the proceedings, but as a whole, the programme for the day was very well carried out. From early in the morning until late at night, appropriate demonstrations were kept up.

The Peekskill Band arrived the previous evening, by the Mary Powell, and about 1 A. M., they serenaded Rev. Mr. Peck, the chosen Orator for the day.

At daybreak, the boom of a cannon aroused the sleeper, sending forth upon the morning air the voice which spoke peace to the United Colonies of America.

At sunrise, again did it belch forth with a roar for every State in the Union; while the Church bells of the village rang out their merry peals with an ardor that only such a day could incite.

Owing to the rain the procession was not formed until near 12 o'clock, and not so full as expected. Gen. Samson was not present, and the duties which had been assigned to him, fell upon his Aid, Charles Schryver. The Marshal of the Day, Samuel Frame, was assisted by two Aids, Benj. B. Hoornbeek and Davis Winne. Among the invited guests present and in the procession, were Hook and Ladder Company, Engine Co's 2 and 3 and Rapid Hose Co., of Rondout. The procession moved through several streets, headed by the Peekskill Band, and followed by the Firemen of Kingston and Rondout, Orator, Reader, Ministers of the Gospel, Board of Directors, Committees, Guests, citizens and strangers. The Oration, &c., were had in the Armory building. Rev. Mr. McKown opened by addressing

the Throne of Grace with an eloquent, impressive and earnest prayer. The Declaration of Independence was read by H. W. Tibbals, Esq., in a highly creditable manner. The Oration, by Rev. Mr. Peck, was well received. The ceremonies here were over about 3 P. M., when they repaired to Decker's (Eagle) Hotel, where a splendid dinner had been prepared for the Band, Invited Guests and Committees of Arrangements. At the table various toasts were drank, speeches made, and cheer after cheer fell responsive upon the ears of the jubilant party. That mine host of the Eagle "knows how to keep a hotel," all who partook at his festive board on this occasion will testify.

Late in the afternoon the Hose Carriages repaired to the Camp Ground, to contend for the two prizes in the race. Rapid of Rondout, Excelsior and Wiltwyck of Kingston, were the competitors. The distance ran was 1000 feet, carrying 400 feet of hose. The Excelsiors were the first to run; followed by the Wiltwycks, which met with an accident in running over a boy, but who was not, we learn, much injured. The boys, however, "picked her up" again and sped to the end of the race. Then followed the Rapids of Rondout. The following is the time made:

	Min.	Sec.
EXCELSIOR.....	1	27
WILTWYCK.....	1	18
RAPID.....		51

The display of fireworks was postponed until Monday evening, owing to the storm. A great number from all around had come in town to witness the display only to be disappointed. The ground was certainly unfit to stand upon; and Mr. Langworthy, in whose hands this matter rested, very wisely postponed the display for another evening.

At sunset the cannon was again heard to thunder forth its fire and smoke, amid the ringing of the loud sounding bells.

And so passed the 87th Anniversary of American Independence in Kingston. Had the day proved pleasant, the Celebration would have passed off with much greater enthusiasm, and a feeling of better satisfaction would have pervaded the general heart. As it was, that memorable day was celebrated with great ardor and zeal by all. The good news received from the Army of the Potomac, on the morning of the 4th, acted as an incentive to renewed effort in the celebration.

First District Convention.

The friends of the Union and of a vigorous prosecution of the war for its maintenance, in the several towns comprising the First Assembly District of Ulster, are requested to send delegates to a Convention to be held at Schryver's Hotel, in Kingston, on Thursday, Aug. 27th, at 12 o'clock, Noon, for the purpose of selecting delegates to the Union State Convention.

BENJ. M. FRELEIGH,
PETER CRISPELL, Jr.,
WILLIAM H. ROMEYN,
District Committee.

Second District Union Convention.

Those who are in favor of unconditionally sustaining the Government in the suppression of the Rebellion and preservation of the Union, and of the maintenance of laws and public order, are requested to meet in the several towns of the Second Assembly District of Ulster, to appoint Delegates to a Convention to be held at the Hotel of B. D. Smedes, in the village of New Paltz, on Thursday, Aug. 27th, at 1 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of selecting Three Delegates to the Union State Convention.

E. VAN WAGENEN,
O. H. ELTING,
JESSE LYONS,
THEODORE BUDINGTON,
P. F. MASTEN,
District Committee.

Third District Union Convention.

The friends of the Union and of a vigorous prosecution of the war for its maintenance, in the several towns comprising the Third Assembly District of Ulster, are requested to send delegates to a convention to be held at the hotel of Cornelius Davis, in Shokan, on Saturday, August 29, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of selecting delegates to the Union State Convention.

By Order of the Committee

(Reported for the Rondout Courier.)

Discourse.

Rev. Mr. Quackenbush, of Brooklyn, preached in the Presbyterian church, in this village, on Sunday morning and evening, the 8th inst. His text, in his morning discourse, was taken from 1st Sam. 1.25. As a preacher he has few equals. There is a distinctness in his sermons which indicates that he understands how to reach the hearts of his hearers. Below we give a synopsis of his morning's discourse. :

"And they slew a bullock and brought the child to Eli."—1 Sam. 1.25.

These words seemed almost uncouth in their simplicity, but they contain a truth and a depth of wisdom which requires the teachings of the Spirit to fully comprehend their spiritual signification.

The narrative informs us that 3,000 years ago a family group set out from Ramah to worship at Shiloh. We witness a whole family led to the Lord. Let us for a little time follow this group as they journey toward the temple. They drive along with them three bullocks and have the additional offerings, an ephah of flour and a bottle of wine, according to the demands of the Lord. The religion of this good man demanded sacrifice and he cheerfully acquiesced. It was not of

a cheap character, but expensive.—
 Elkanah had for many years prior to this,
 went up yearly to the house of the Lord,
 but his journey this year was marked
 with peculiar interest. Surrounded by
 his wives and children and laden with
 the best productions of his fields and
 vineyards as an offering to the Lord.—
 In the family group there was one on
 whom the fond parents doted—the gem
 of the family, and the object of this
 journey was to lend him to the Lord.—
 And first, we are told *they slew a bullock*
 —an offering was made. This gift was
 a token of thanksgiving. It had, how-
 ever, a deeper meaning, (Elkanah was
 a Levite) the act was done in obedience
 to Law. Any man might bring a sacri-
 fice. In its painful death it showed the
 awful effects of sin, and the necessity of
 shedding blood in order to atone for the
 transgressor. The pious Levite had a
 consciousness of the demerits of sin as
 he witnessed the bleeding sacrifice offer-
 ed in his behalf—he looked forward to
 that perfect sacrifice of which the blood
 of bulls and goats was merely typical.—
 Observe next *They brought the child to*
God. There must have been a contest
 as they entered Shiloh's gate. How
 must that mother's heart have been wrung
 with anguish for years? How busy all
 that time to find a substitute? Of the
 deep heart aches, long nights of weeping.
 But the spirit of the Lord enabled her
 to overcome her feelings. See how the
 Lord was served. The child was brought,
 the pet lamb of the flock. We see in
 this little verse of scripture the nature of
 true religion.

We have an altar also, Justice sees
 sin and demands satisfaction. We can-
 not atone for our sins by our tears. No
 man was ever known to let off a heinous
 offender for a few tears. The atonement
 must be a propitiation. Can the
 Righteous God take the innocent victim
 and cause him to suffer the consequences
 of our sins! Is then unrighteousness
 with God? No! How is it with our
 selves? Why should not God through
 his Son show his love to a ruined world?
 By this one voluntary offering made by
 the Redeemer for us, we draw nigh to
 God with full assurance. The thunder
 of Sinai is stilled. We look around and
 triumphantly ask who is he that con-
 demneth? It is Christ that died. Some
 perhaps will find fault and object to this
 view and say your faith gives heaven for

nothing. Will a man expose himself to danger, when there is nothing to win? yours is lazy waiting salvation. This is plausible, we meet this objection with facts. One fact in the text is, they made the offering and fulfilled their vows.— What we have seen at Shiloh, has been repeated. The law of the Kingdom of grace is unchangeable. The atonement must conquer. The sinner conscious of his desert, who flees to Jesus and is received in the arms of his love, is effectually won. He desires to labor for Jesus, he hates former course, and says with the apostle, "I am determined to know nothing but Jesus Christ, and him crucified." Is such a one likely to be an idler? He desires by day and night to labor for the honor and glory of him who died for him.

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