

National and State Thanksgiving.

The day was cold and bleak, the streets extremely rough with frozen "hubbles," and the people (who didn't keep or attend stores) generally stayed at home and enjoyed their good cheer and the society of friends. The audiences at the two churches where religious services were held were quite thin, considering the large number of church organizations, their activity at certain periods, and the solemn request of our governor and president that *all* lay aside their secular work and assemble in their places of worship for general thanksgiving, prayer, and praise. We are not inclined to blame the Roman Catholics for taking no notice of the "Yankee thanksgiving," when Protestants pay so little respect to it. Nearly every place of business was open for the forenoon, and of course through the hours of religious worship.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

At the Central M. E. church a union service of evangelical Christians was held with a moderate audience present. The opening prayer was made by Rev. Mr. Draper of the First M. E. church, and the benediction pronounced by Rev. L. H. Pearce. A very full choir executed appropriate music. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Fish of the Baptist church, from the text in Ezekiel 47: 6, 7.

At St. Paul's Episcopal church a larger congregation assembled than usual, and the rector, Rev. J. W. Clark, preached from Psalm 150: 6.

[We shall give abstracts of both these sermons in the next Republican.]

AT THE REFORM SCHOOL.

Thursday was indeed a day of thanksgiving. It was observed as a holiday and general day of "letting down" of restraint on the part of those in charge. Arrangements were made for an excellent dinner for the boys, and at half-past 12 they marched into the dining-room, which always presents a clean appearance, and where the recent enlargement by cutting an arch, thereby connecting an adjoining room, and the repainting of both rooms, adds greatly to the cheerfulness of the same, and allows more room for the tables, so tastefully arranged. At the north end of the room were the following mottoes: "God bless our home," and "The Lord will provide." The dinner bill of fare consisted of turkey with dressing, warm potatoes, warm biscuit, four kinds of cake, mince pie, cheese, apples, and coffee. There was a happy and thankful look on each boy as he entered the room, and a visitor who had known many of the boys before they entered the school could not help contrasting their comfort and improvement with their surroundings a few months ago. The superintendent, teachers, employes, and their friends took dinner in the reading-room. In the afternoon the boys devoted their time to drilling, ball-playing, and games of various kinds. Truly, if heads of families in many households took as much pains to make the youthful members happy and comfortable as do the superintendent, teachers, and all the ladies connected with the reform school, there would be more general thanksgiving than at present. There were 282 boys in the school on Thursday.

THE DICKENS CARNIVAL.

On Thursday evening in Mead's hall a large gathering of the intellect, beauty, and fashion of our city was to be seen, conducting and witnessing the Dickens carnival. The trial of old Pickwick for breach of promise to marry the widow Bardell created great amusement; and the refreshments were most ample and served by agreeable ladies in the costumes and manners of Dickens' best known characters. We shall give a full report of the brilliant affair in the next Republican. The total receipts were about \$210, and the library and literary association will realize at least \$175 clear profit.